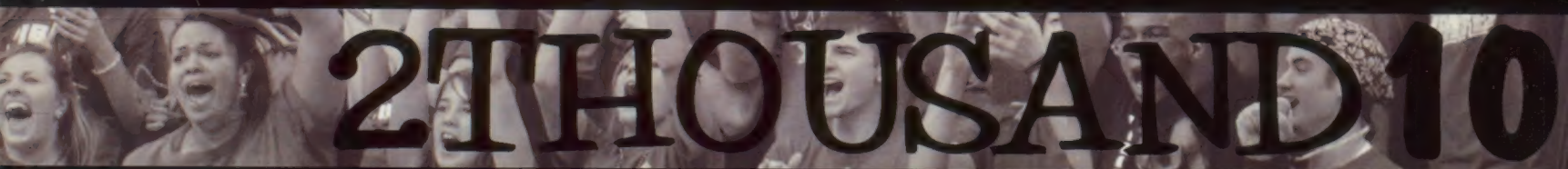




INNOVATE  
&  
CREATE



2THOUSAND10



# INNOVAT

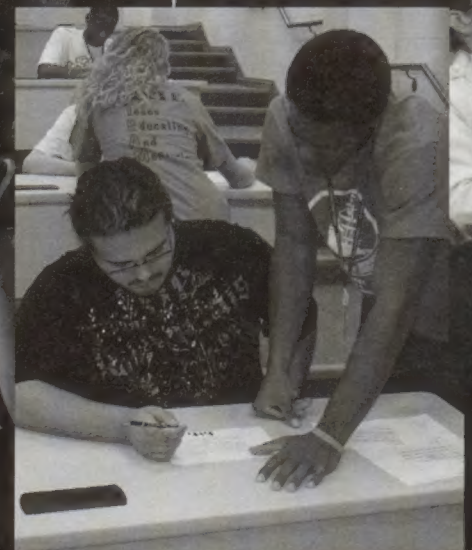
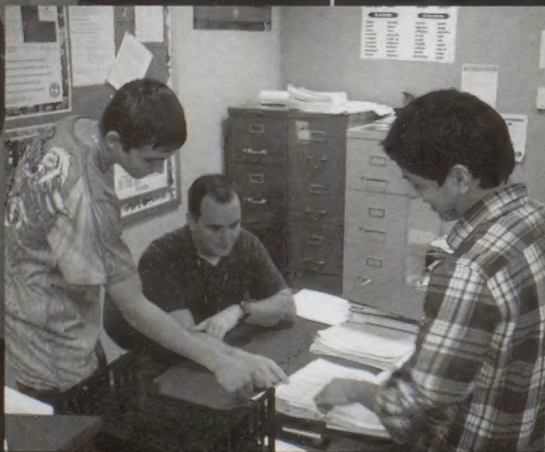
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# ADS & INDEX











# INNOVATE & CREATE

Merrillvue  
Merrillville High School  
276 E. 68th Place  
Merrillville, IN 46410  
Volume 85  
219-650-5307  
Enrollment 2328  
[www.mvsc.k12.in.us/mhs](http://www.mvsc.k12.in.us/mhs)



*Rachel Mendez photo*



*Senior Madison Cofield*





# TAKE A chance

ature. Bold. Courageous. Brave. Edgy. Trust. Bel  
Daring. Fearless. Confident. Spunky. Jeopardy. S  
Spirited. Fancy. Challenging. Headstrong. Streng  
ate. Peppy. Unpredictable. Possibilities. Explorer  
ding. Zesty. Determined. Feisty. Embrace. Imagin  
ature. Bold. Courageous. Fancy. Action. Trust. B  
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vely. Edgy. Accepting. Risk. Headstrong. Strengt  
Peppy. Unpredictable. Possibilities. Explorers. He  
g. Zesty. Determined. Feisty. Embrace. Imaginati

Soon we will be setting the fresh, edgy trends. Someday we will be taking the music industry by storm. Tomorrow we will be reaching new heights. Ultimately, we will be leaving high school and, after high school, we will enter the real world.

We must be like explorers traveling the world in pursuit of our dreams and our ambitions. We are the future generation, and we must be prepared for what is yet to come.

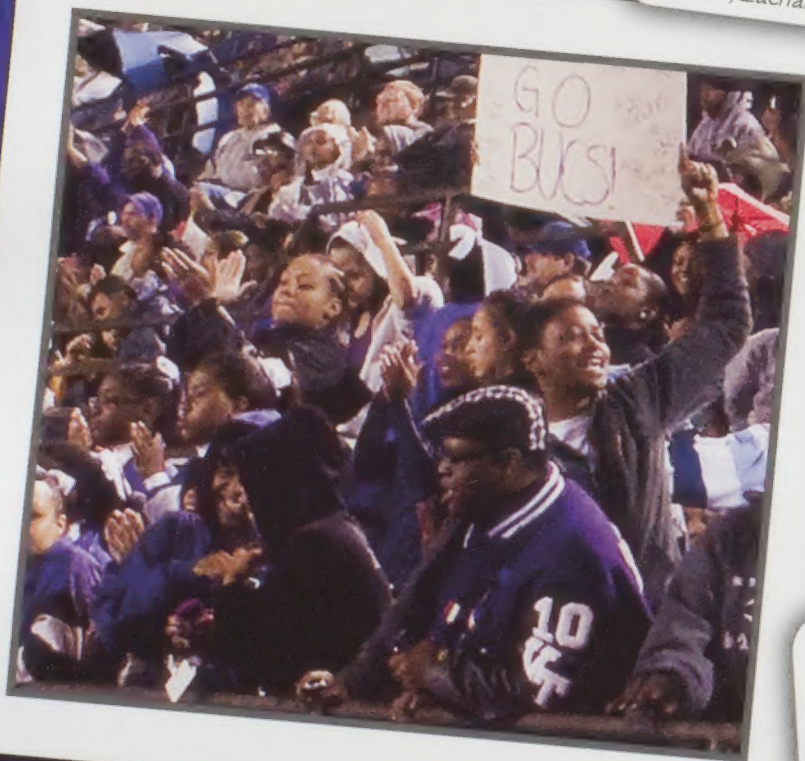
So before life catches up with us, we must be fearless, we must be adventurous, we must be bold and we must be headstrong.

“Twenty years from now, you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn’t do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover.” —Mark Twain





At least once every season, a group of students show their spirit even when the weather is not ideal. "It felt like it was zero degrees outside, but we took it like champs," Senior Theofilos Makarounas said about himself and Seniors Peter Paskash, Zachary Forsell and Anthony Napules.



After agreeing with the players to attend their games, Senior girls' basketball player LaToya Reaves-Weaver shows her support at the football games. Reaves-Weaver expects the football players to hold up their end of the deal by attending their games.



Many students come out to the games to support the Pirates, but once in a while some students go all out with face paint. "We painted our faces for the game because we thought it would be a way to show our spirit and to show that we support our team," Junior Messay Crawford-Taylor said.



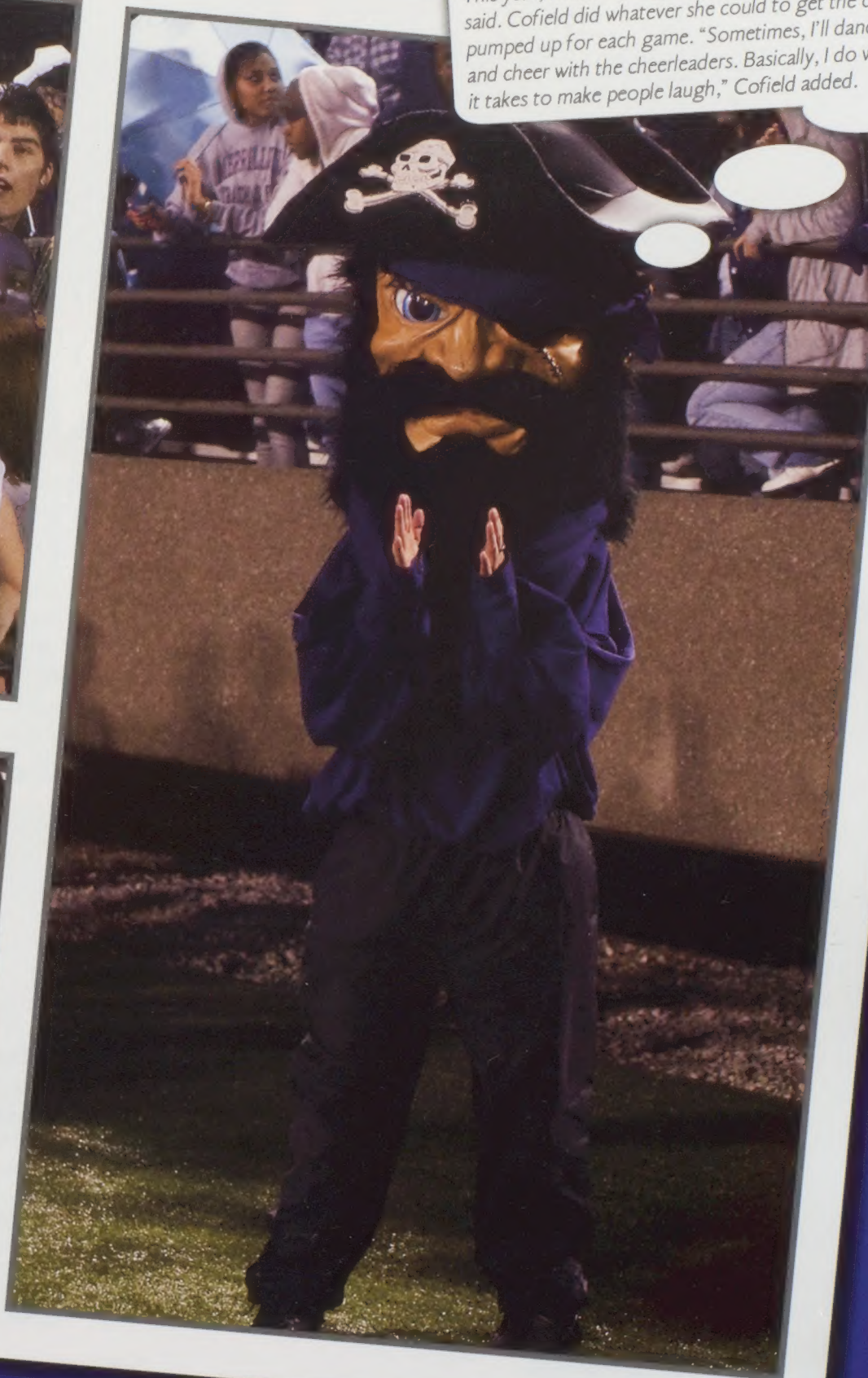
# MAKE SOME noise



"The football team is having a great season," Senior Rachel Drapeau said.



"I like hanging out with everyone and cheering with the cheerleaders," Senior Tracee Mitchel said.



"I've wanted to be the school mascot since freshman year, but I was too scared to actually step up to the plate. This year, I decided to go for it," Senior Madison Cofield said. Cofield did whatever she could to get the crowd pumped up for each game. "Sometimes, I'll dance around and cheer with the cheerleaders. Basically, I do whatever it takes to make people laugh," Cofield added.



# TWO WORLDS unite

Six eager students — Leon Hatzler, Oskari Makela, Vania Pellizzaro, Lousia Schwartz, Carlotta Sciacaluga and Patrick Virtanen, coming from Germany, Finland, Italy and Sweden — arrived at Merrillville High School as the 2009-2010 foreign exchange students.

They quickly discovered they had a lot to learn and even more to look forward to in the states.

"The rules are different because in Germany you must be 18 to drive and 16 to drink," Hatzler said.

"I am looking forward most to learning English and the exciting experience," Makela said.

Virtanen said his favorite place so far is Chicago.

"I fell in love! I love the big city and I felt at home!" Virtanen said.

After experiencing a new culture with new people and different ideals, Pellizzaro said she wished to "make new friends, have a good overall experience and become more independent."

Before these six students came to the states, four MHS students packed their bags for their own adventures.

The Indiana University Honors Program in Foreign Language selected Senior Ajay Patel to visit France. Senior James Posey, Junior Jacob Caddick and Sophomore Samuel Gubitz joined the People to People group that visited several European nations.

"My overall experience was awesome! It was the best experience of my life," Patel said.

The main thing that Caddick got from France was self-assurance.

"I became more comfortable talking to people," he said, "and became more confident."

"My host family was really nice, and made me feel like I was a part of their family,"

Senior Ajay Patel said. Patel said his favorite thing about his host family was that they had a lot of kids and they were always active. "The food was also pretty amazing," Patel said. Patel enjoyed sailing with his host dad and brother.

Spending 18 days in England and France is a once in a lifetime opportunity. Through the People to People program, Senior James Posey spent time during the summer of 2009 in England and France.

"Being in another country is amazing. I got to get out of my culture zone and experience other cultures," Posey said.



With other students from the IU Honors Program in Foreign Language, Senior Ajay Patel visits St. Brieu castle. "After school, other people in the group and I usually walked around town," Patel said.



"I thought it would be a very nice experience to go to England and France to learn about their cultures," Junior Jacob Caddick said. Caddick said his best memory of the trip was sword fighting at Warwick Castle. "We actually got to use real swords," Caddick said.



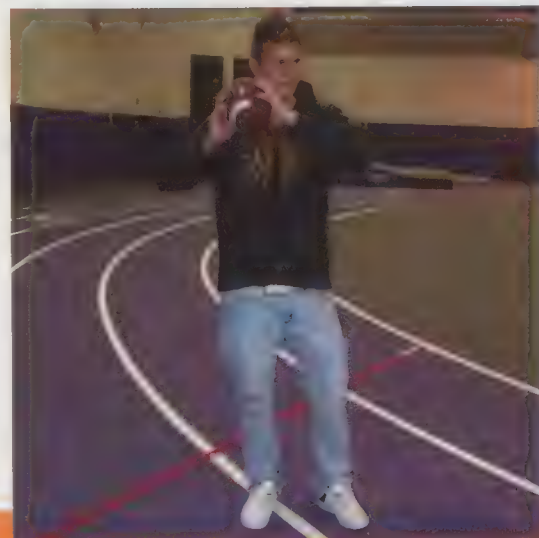
Italian native Vania Pellizzaro came to America to know a different culture, meet new people with different ideas from hers, and have new experiences. Pellizzaro was surprised by the diversity in America. "Everyone is open-minded," she said.



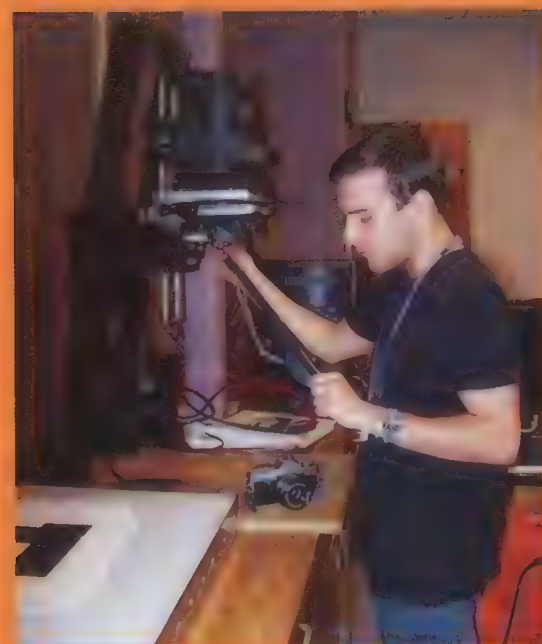
Six students, Oskari Makela, Leon Hatzler, Vania Pellizzaro, Patrick Virtanen, Carlotta Sciacaluga and Lousia Schwartz, attended Merrillville High School during 2009-2010 school year.



The main reason German native Leon Hatzler became a foreign exchange student is to see America and a different way of life. Hatzler said that the rules in Germany are very different than in the United States. "You have to be 18 to drive," Hatzler said.



One of the things Finish native Oskari Makela is looking forward to is learning English. "It sounded fun," Makela said. Makela said he was persuaded to become a foreign exchange student by his mom and friends.



"I was really excited. I imagined myself here and it's been really fun," Senior Patrick Virtanen said. Virtanen said that America is different from Sweden. "The stores are much bigger," he said, "and the people are nicer." Virtanen would come back to America and live in Chicago or San Francisco.



The day before Senior Carlotta Sciacaluga left for her nine-month stay in America, the 17-year-old Latina native says she was nervous. All that changed once she met her host mom. "I love my host family. My mom is very young and I can talk to her about anything," Sciacaluga said.



Senior Louisa Schwartz decided to come to America to learn something new. "Since I was 11, I have always wanted to come to America. In school, we had to write a foreign exchange diary and I liked mine so much I decided to become a foreign exchange student," Schwartz said.





As students walk into the new cafeteria, the lunch lines may catch some attention. A "cleaner," pick up and go style seems to fit the description. "It's a true delight to work here! I love it," Cafeteria Worker Barbara Smaw said.



After completing the \$40 million Freshman Wing during the 2009-10 school year, Assistant Principal Mr. David DeMuth said he believes the students adapted well to the new space. "They're in a large school, but in a small school setting," Mr. DeMuth said.

Still receiving four to five books daily, the new library is not up to its full potential quite yet. New Freshman Wing Librarian Ms. Megan Hogan said the students are still very respectful and appreciate the space even though it is not full yet. "By the beginning of next year, we should be looking like a real library," Ms. Hogan said.



One of the biggest changes in Merrillville High School history is the addition of the new Freshman Wing that was completed during the summer of 2009.

Construction for the wing began during the '07-'08 school year and ended just before the '09-'10 year's first trimester started. Its 31 rooms are comprised of 4 science labs, 10 computer labs, a new cafeteria, a TV studio and a media center.

The approximately \$40 million project gives freshmen the opportunity to make a smoother transition from Pierce to Merrillville High School than they would have had otherwise. "It wasn't hard. There's just a lot more walking to do here, but I like the variety of the food," Freshman Justice Williams said regarding the change. For others, the transition was not as easy. "I don't like the teachers. If you miss one assignment, you get a detention. No warnings. At Pierce, you only got an F," Freshman Amber Granderson remarked. "It makes no sense that we get homework and projects every day," Freshman Daniele Hill said.

One class that benefitted from the new facility was the Pirate News Network, who received new equipment during the move from the main building to the Freshman Wing. "We got all new high definition equipment and new mixing boards that help movies to look smoother," PNN teacher Mr. Mark Ciesielski said. "It's also a lot less cramped and more room to breathe here. In the old room there were just two rooms connected by a hallway," Mr. Ciesielski added.

Many upperclassmen thought that a great idea to keep freshmen seated but they were outraged to find that freshmen lockers were bigger than in the main building. "Freshmen in their own environment. It helps the halls less crowded. I'm jealous they have bigger lockers than we. We need more room because of bigger books," Senior Nekoy said.

Some upperclassmen felt that they should have been theirs. "I wish the wing should be a senior wing. I've been here the longest," Senior Cervantes said.



# NEW AND Improved



Being only 5 feet 3 inches tall, Senior Catherine Gamino found the old lockers to be a tight squeeze. As for the lockers in the Freshman Wing, she had enough room to strike a pose. Almost being one-fourth bigger in width, Gamino said, "Some extra space would have been nice."



Coming from tight quarters, space is an advantage to the Pirate News Network staff. During the summer, PNN staff members moved out with the old and in with the new. "Getting everything up and running was the most difficult," Senior PNN Adviser Melissa Kwiatkoski said.



Seniors Michael Enghofer, Colin Schafer, Frank Traina, Kevin Schroeder and Junior Kyle Strom have been friends since freshman year. "We can trust them most of time, and they are funny," Traina and Schroeder said. These guys participated in Lip Sync. "We are really competitive and sometimes start stupid arguments," Enghofer said. "They are also really sarcastic and can get on your nerves," Schafer added.



Since freshman year, Seniors Jillian Larson and Amber Medwetz have been best friends. They met in band, and they both joined a Saturday Morning League Bowling team. "Despite Amber's germ phobia," and "Jill being defensive about things," Medwetz and Larson said, "we still work very well together as a team."



"We like to play soccer and video games together," Seniors Juan Hernandez and Juan Ayala said. These two met on the bus, and they have been friends since freshman year. "Juan has a good personality," Hernandez said. "Juan says a lot of corny jokes that aren't that funny," Ayala said.



Best friends since the fifth grade, Freshmen Jessica Vasquez and Miranda Vega enjoy playing volleyball and going to the movies together. "Miranda is a good friend and always listens to people," Vasquez said. "Jessica is really funny, and that is one thing that I like about her," Vega added.

# MY BEST friend



# GAME OF love

It has been one year and seven months for Seniors Rachel Mendez and Michael McNeil. "Mike makes me smile even when I am mad or upset," Mendez said. They met at his house when she went there to go swimming. Even though they have been dating for a year, they remain complete opposites.



Seniors Colin Burke and Kathleen Baran have been dating since November 9, 2008. Baran's favorite moment is getting through senior year with someone to catch her if she falls. "Kathleen is smart, pretty and funny," Burke said. When they are not swimming, they like to relax and watch movies. "Colin puts himself down in sports when he is not doing well. I don't like that about him," Baran said.

One year goes by slowly for some people, but for Senior Anthony Miranda and Junior Katelynn Usher, one year has flown by. "Anthony is everything, and every day gets better when I see him," Usher said. They have been together for a year, but they still have their differences.



Seniors Jacob Flores and Michelle Cavazos met six years ago playing basketball. Flores's favorite moment is dancing with her at her quinceanera. "Michelle has a great personality, and I love that she is herself," Flores said. "Jacob is very different, kind and thoughtful," Cavazos said.



# THE FASHION do's

## Winter

Senior James Pollard:  
Wool Coat, \$250, Macy's.  
Hat, \$15, Aeropostale.  
Senior Naudia Bradley:  
J.Lo Wool Coat, \$75, Macy's.  
Printed Scarf, \$19.50, American Eagle.  
Juicy Couture Purse, \$225,  
Juicy Couture Store.



## Spring

Senior Natalie Riechers:  
Red Sunglasses, \$12.95,  
Discovery.  
Patterned Floral Top,  
\$19.99, Charlotte Russe.  
Junior Kelsey Sajdera:  
Zebra Print Top, \$17.99,  
Body Central.  
Long Necklace, \$1.99,  
Aeropostale.



## Fall

Senior Emily Kurczynski:  
Plaid Shirt, \$20, Rue 21.  
UGG Boots, \$90, DSW.  
Junior Darien Gornick:  
Flannel Plaid Shirt, \$70,  
Abercrombie & Fitch.  
Retro 1 Jordans, \$120,  
River Oaks.



## Summer

Senior Gabrielle Roberts:  
Color Block Dress, \$35, Forever 21.  
Sophomore Megan Dicken:  
Flip Flops, 21\$5, Old Navy.  
Color Block Dress, \$20, TJ Maxx.







## Guy Shoes

White & Green Nike Blazers, \$90, Nike.com.  
 Blue & Orange Nike Dunks, \$90, Nike.com.  
 White & Red Retro Jordan 6, \$160, Foot Locker.  
 "I wear them because they're new, different and fashionable," Junior Michael Gillis said.

## Plaid Flannel

Plaid Flannel Button Up, \$70, Abercrombie & Fitch.

"It's a good way to express my sense of fashion," Junior Darien Cornick said.



## Peace Signs

Watch, \$20 Milwaukee German Fest.  
 Heart and Peace Sign Key Chain, \$5, Dots.  
 "Peace Signs are a fun way to express my personality because they're vibrant and bold," Junior Hannah Webster said.



## Purple & White

Seniors Amber Walls, Valanti Atsas, Catherine Gamino, Junior Darien Cornick, Seniors Natalie Riechers, Naudia Bradley and Dianna DeLeon show their support on the day of Merrillville's Semi-State game.





Pauline Laorden photo



Senior Cha'ya Eddie





# BE THE *explanation*

High School fosters an environment whereby students and community interact to provide educational opportunities for productive citizens and lifelong learners. Merrillville High School fosters an environment whereby students, faculty, parents and the community interact to provide educational opportunities, empowering students to become productive citizens and lifelong learners. Merrillville High School fosters an environment whereby students, faculty, parents and the community interact to provide educational opportunities, empowering students to become productive citizens and lifelong learners.

**W**ith all of the things that happen during the school year, some students fail to remember their purpose at school.

Many students would sum up our goal in a few short words: to get an education. Though correct, the education part is only the beginning of something much more important.

We take classes. We do homework. We interact with other students, but why?

This experience helps us figure out who we are and what we want to do with our lives. Merrillville High School presents us with the perfect opportunity to test our skills, unearth our best ideas and define success with our own stories.

“Success means having the courage, the determination and the will to become the person you believe you were meant to be.” —George Sheehan



# A REAL treat



Focused on wrapping the food, Junior Victoria Smith places aluminum foil around a dish that she prepared. "The class was just like I thought it would be. Mrs. Stallings is cooler than I thought," Smith said. Smith prepared many dishes from tacos and lasagna to cookies and frozen treats.



Carefully taking the food out of the pan, Senior Gwendolyn Joiner scoops a piece onto her plate. Joiner enjoyed cooking different things. "My favorite thing to cook is the buffalo chicken wraps," Joiner said.



After he dished himself a plate of food, Senior James Pollard said he "enjoyed all the food cooked, especially the homemade lasagna and garlic bread." Throughout the class, Pollard learned the fundamentals of cooking and basic principles of how to make a meal. "I took this class because I wanted to learn how to cook for my girlfriend," Pollard said.

Starting off with cookies, and then progressing to soups, appetizers, cake rolls and multicultural foods, the Gourmet Foods class's agenda throughout the trimester looks like their hands are full.

From learning different types of knife skills to preparing a traditional dish into something spectacular, these students get to take part in everything.

"On a scale of one to ten, after this class, I like cooking about a twenty," Senior James Pollard said.

According to Gourmet Foods Teacher Mrs. Maggie Stallings, "The traditional meatball, meat loaf and soups seemed to be the students favorite testings."

Simple dishes make simple meals. That is where they found the idea about Buccaneers' Bounty, which is a teacher meal day once a month. They purchase an entrée, side dish and a dessert, all cooked by the students for only \$5.

"Being in this program has really got me thinking about considering culinary school," Pollard said.



Enjoying the taste of the food, Senior Demetrius Morris puts the fork up to his mouth. Morris wanted to learn how to cook, and this class was perfect for him. Although he enjoyed the class, Morris does not plan on continuing his career in culinary school.



While holding the bread to make a sandwich with Sophomore Brittney Upshaw, Sophomore Adam Brodie feels that the Gourmet Foods class was a "great cooking experience." Brodie's favorite type of food he made was the variety of soups, especially the corn soup. "I want to own a chain of Italian restaurants, and I feel that I am more prepared because of this class," Brodie said.





Interacting in a mock trial, Juniors Marina Miljus, Tyree Johnson, James Wright and Senior Phillip Mayweathers review evidence presented to them during the trial. "I became interested in this class because I wanted to learn about law," Miljus said. Although they had no set role, Miljus preferred being a witness.

With many students having an interest in pursuing a career in law, a newly founded class called Business Personal Law has been introduced to Merrillville High School this year.

Business Teacher Mrs. Sharon Row became interested in teaching this class because her daughter is a paralegal.

"I believe that this class helps students set higher standards and think outside the box," Mrs. Row said.

Students have not only had to learn how to be quick on their feet, but they also had to debate and negotiate well. They have learned about proper etiquette within a court room, rules of evidence and how to present questions for direct and cross examinations.

"Being a part of this class has helped me become more prepared and experienced with all the fields of law," Junior Tyree Johnson said.

"It has made me more knowledgeable and overcome my nerves," Johnson added.



Engaging in a mock trial, Junior James Wright executes the role of a defense lawyer. "I became interested in this class after attending the National Student Leadership Conference this summer. It taught me about law and advocacy and made me interested in law," Wright said. Wright would like to pursue a law degree at an Ivy League college.

Performing the role of a judge, Senior Xochitl Logan enjoys being a student of the Business Personal Law class. Logan had no set role, but she usually was the debater. "I became interested in this class because I wanted to be a lawyer. I felt the class was a good base to learn law," Logan said.



While debating his evidence to the jury, Junior Daniel Armstrong gains experience in the courtroom. He said his favorite part of the class was "meeting new people. I really enjoyed the debate when the underdogs beat the more experienced students," Armstrong said. Armstrong said he found that the hardest part of the class was the work, but he still wants to pursue law.



Before preparing to give her testimony to Senior Tiyari Bulter, Senior Alexis Protho takes an oath on the witness stand. "My favorite part was being a witness. I had to hurry and say something before I was proven guilty," Protho said. Protho has always been interested in law as a profession, and she believes this class has prepared her for law school.



# LAW AND Order



# HOW IT'S done

## How To: Set the School on Fire

While working in Mr. Dave Teeter's graphic arts class, students must work very carefully and pay attention to their surroundings. Students are working with equipment that can be very hazardous if not used correctly. If they do not pay close attention to what is happening around them, then it can become a very dangerous situation.



Junior Darien Gornick prints the shirts and then takes them over to the dryer.

### Step 1

Gornick then places the shirts into the dryer, but he gets distracted by Senior Sean Schafer. Neither of them are watching the shirts cycle through the dryer.



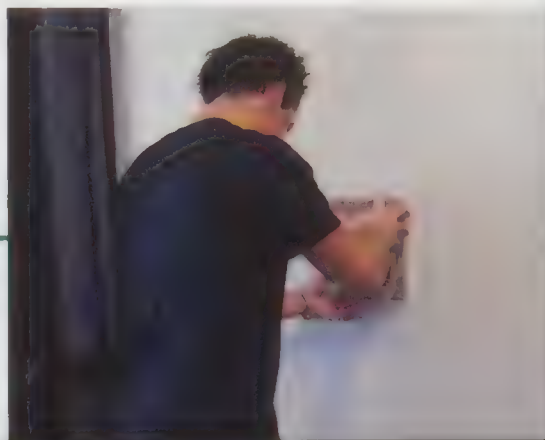
### Step 2

Then, the box at the end of the dryer begins to overflow with shirts and the dryer gets clogged.



### Step 4

Gornick must now pull the fire alarm and run for safety.



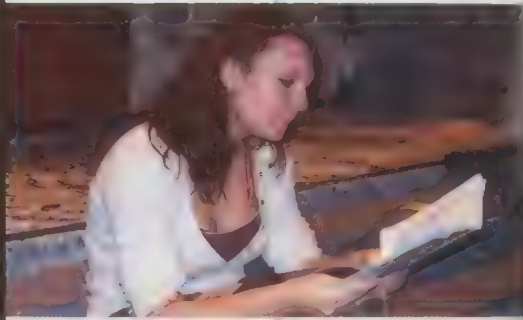
## How To: Land a Role in "Scrooge"

From learning to improvise dialog to analyzing a script, actors and actresses who set their sights on the lead must spend hours preparing for the audition. They must research the character, memorize the script, act professionally and, above all, remember to breathe.



### Step 1

Senior Alyssa Shirk prepares for the audition by doing vocal warm-ups.



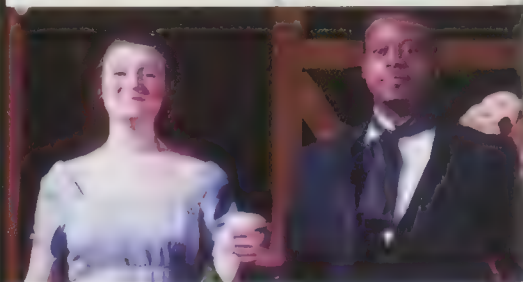
Then, Shirk repeatedly reads the script and memorizes her lines.

### Step 2



### Step 3

Next, Shirk puts emotion into her character.



Shirk must now make sure she is in sync with other characters.

### Step 4

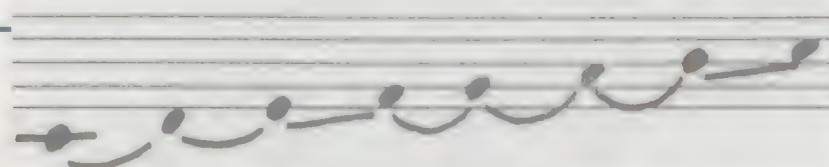


Senior Anthony Miranda demonstrates how to correctly sit the guitar on his leg and tune it properly.



## Step 2

Miranda then studies how to play a C Major scale.



Now, Miranda places his fingers in their correct positions to play a C Major on the scale.

## Step 3

## Step 4

After all the preparation, Miranda can now strum the guitar and produce a C Major on a scale.



## Step 1

### How To: Play C Major on the Guitar

Applied Music-Guitar allows students to learn how to play the guitar. Some goals from the class include refining their skills, expanding their horizons and integrating music into their lives.

### How To: Change Brakes in Advanced Power Mechanics

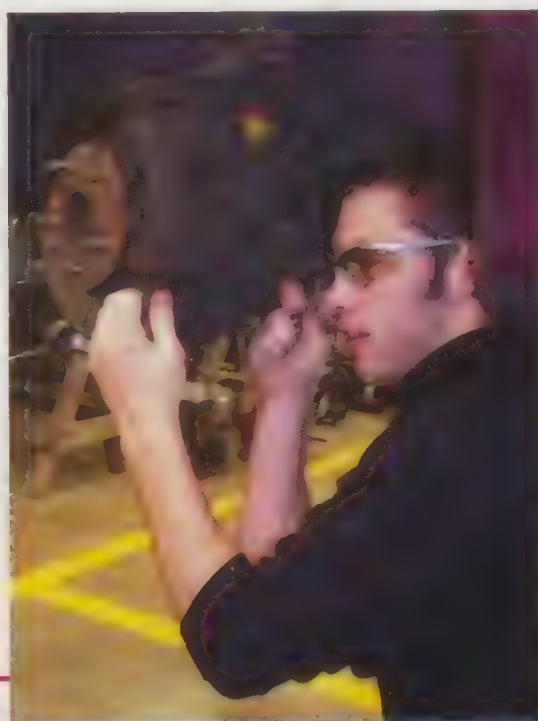
Without cars, the world as we know it would shut down. Cars and their maintenance account for big money. Power Mechanics students are trained in the basics of the car engine and tools, changing the oil and using the lift and learning the fundamentals and repair of braking, steering and suspension systems.

**Step 3** Finally, Leicht switches out the old brake pads for the new brake pads and reattaches the tire to the hub.



## Step 1

Senior Timothy Leicht removes the tire from the hub.



## Step 2

Leicht then removes the caliper bolts and takes the caliper off.







The newest math educator, Mrs. Beth Gillespie, helps her students achieve their goals. "I believe that everybody needs a certain amount of education to achieve where they want to go in life," Mrs. Gillespie said. "She's a good teacher and she has good teaching methods," Sophomore Frances Jimenez said.

To help pay for college study hall adviser Mr. Rayshon Richardson came to work at MHS. "My first day was good but it was weird at the same time," Mr. Richardson said.

The new theatre director, Mr. Steve Elser, is also a new English teacher at MHS. Mr. Elser came into the job with an extensive background in theatre. "All of my family loves the theatre," Mr. Elser said. Mr. Elser also said his theatre classes were easier than his English classes. "I didn't have a lot of time to prepare," Mr. Elser said. "It was hard getting use to the paper work."



"I like working with teens to make a great influence on their life," business teacher Mr. Jeff Trivette said. "He's really nice and knows how to keep kids interested," Sophomore Jose Avalos said. "I like that he shows a lot of examples," Junior Christopher Knight said.





# NEW *N* school

**E**ducation takes patience. Some students need more help than others. Merrillville High School had recently added nine new teachers to its staff.

"I enjoy teaching at Merrillville High School because right away I was attacked. While the faculty was talking about their school visions and teacher methods, I knew this was the right school for me," science teacher Mr. Joe Calles said.

"I enjoy sports and teaching students fun ways to keep kids wanting to stay active," physical education teacher Mr. Kyle Prow said. "You need to be active so you can have the energy to learn."

MHS also added a new guidance counselor to help students arrange their schedules with classes they need to graduate. "Merrillville High School is just an awesome school," guidance counselor Mr. Greg Geimer said. After earning his master's degree from Indiana University, Mr. Geimer wanted to be a guidance counselor.

Ms. Whitney Strimbu is the new special education teacher. She has been a special education teacher for five years. "I enjoy being a special education teacher because I love working with kids and making them feel equal and giving them the help they may need," she said.

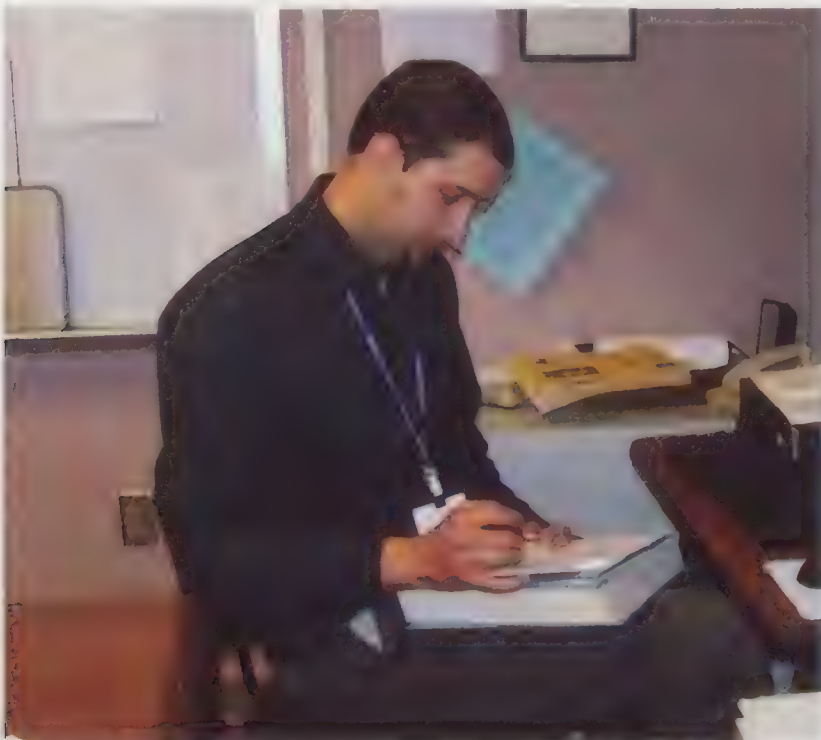
Drama! Drama! Drama! Mr. Steve Elser said "the staff of Merrillville High School is wonderful and very helpful. They have been respectful since the day I walked into the school."

"I really didn't know what to expect coming into a different career," business teacher Mr. Jeff Trivette said.

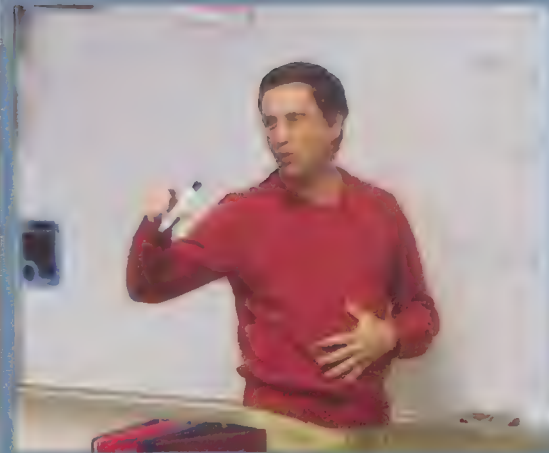
New English teacher Mr. Dave Hossler graduated from the University of Illinois in Chicago. "Merrillville High School has an outstanding staff, administration and students," Mr. Hossler said.

After he was hired to supervise study hall students, Mr. Rayshon Richardson said he "did not have any exceptions coming into the first day."

New math teacher Ms. Beth Gillespie teaches math because it can be easily applied to life. "I chose math because you use math everyday and I like being able to handle critical thinking problems," Ms. Gillespie said.



*"I think the world needs better communication."* English teacher Mr. Dave Hossler said. Mr. Hossler came to Merrillville High School because he heard it was a good school. "Merrillville has outstanding staff, administration and students," Mr. Hossler said. Mr. Hossler expected to have three easy-going classes and one tough class.



*A referee for soccer and basketball games, science teacher Mr. Joe Calles said he wanted to come to Indiana and become a teacher at MHS. "I was expecting all of the students to be motivated to learn," Mr. Calles said.*

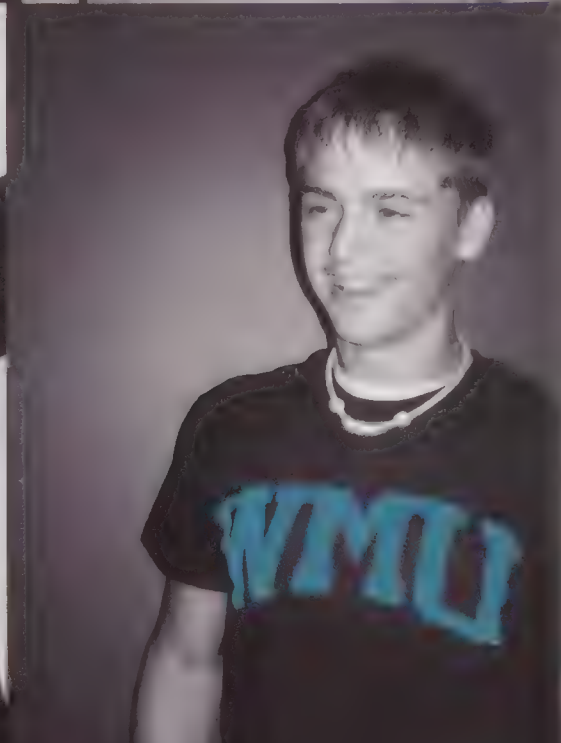
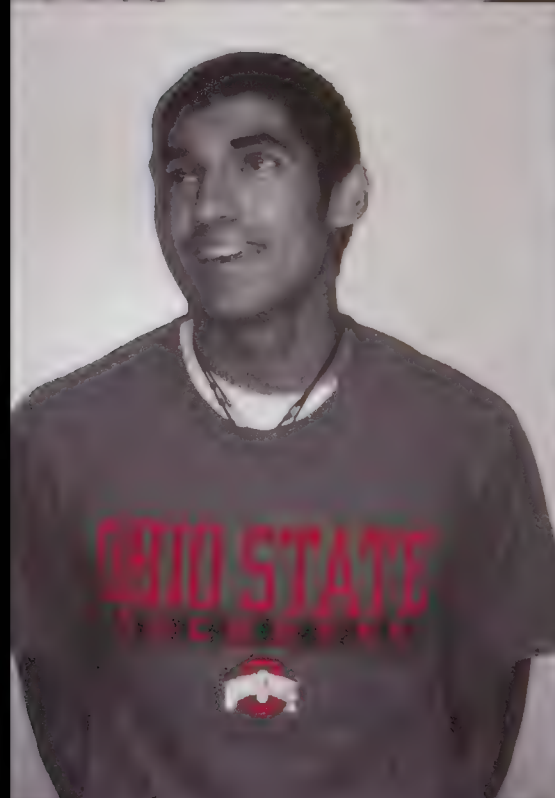


*With the hope of eventually becoming an optometrist, Mr. Greg Geimer temporarily became a guidance counselor. "I like to help senior students get all of their credits so they can graduate," Mr. Geimer said. He earned his bachelor's degree from Purdue University. "Being a first-year counselor, I knew I would be very busy and overwhelmed," Mr. Geimer added.*



*After being mistaken for a student, physical education teacher Mr. Kyle Prow had an interesting first day at MHS. "The staff made it a lot easier for me to transition to the job," Mr. Prow said. Mr. Prow knew it was going to be a challenge, and he expected the students to know how to act. Mr. Prow also said the hardest part of his job was discipline. "If you hear a curse word, it's expected of you to act a certain way," Mr. Prow said.*







# PEACEOUT seniors

## Jericca Jasso

Q: What is your favorite thing about the campus?  
A: The size.

Q: Why do you want to go to Indiana?  
A: My friends are going there and they have a good dental program.

Q: Do you plan on participating in anything?  
A: No, I want to focus on school.

Q: What is your major?  
A: Dental hygiene.

## Ashley Bland

Q: Why do you want to go there?  
A: It has an easy-going and welcoming atmosphere.

Q: What is your major?  
A: Double major in broadcast journalism and visual communication.

Q: Where is Mason?  
A: Fairfax, Virginia.

Q: How will you pay for it?  
A: Scholarships and financial aid.

## Francis Martisovic

Q: What do you like the most about Notre Dame?

A: My favorite thing is the student life, the sports and the teacher to student ratio.

Q: Why do you want to go to Notre Dame?

A: It is close to home and they are nationally ranked for business.

Q: Have any family members attended Notre Dame?

A: My father attended for two years.

## Xavier Ponce

Q: What do you want to major in?  
A: Computer science.

Q: Why do you want to go to Ohio State?  
A: They have a very good baseball program.

Q: How do you plan on paying?  
A: Financial aid.

OHIO STATE

## Lisa Pozniak

Q: What is your major?  
A: Special education or speech therapy.

Q: What's your favorite thing about Ball State?  
A: The cafeteria.

Q: Has any family member attended Ball State?  
A: Yes, my cousin went there.

Q: Participating in any sports?  
A: Yes, cheer.

BALL STATE

## Daria Arthur

Q: Who motivates you the most to go there?  
A: My mom loves the school.

Q: Will you cheer there?  
A: No, It's time to focus on my studies.

Q: Are you nervous to get a roommate?  
A: In a way, yes.

Q: Who made you want to go?  
A: Diona Milenkovski gave me the idea.

IUPUI

## Matthew McLindon

Q: Has anyone in your family gone to Valparaiso?  
A: My sister-in-law did.

Q: What's the best thing about the school?  
A: The campus. It's beautiful.

Q: What is your major?  
A: Criminal justice.

Q: How will you pay for it?  
A: Hopefully through scholarships.

## Marcus Howard

Q: Why do you want to go to Illinois?  
A: It is a nice school and has great academics.

Q: Do you think the college life will get the best of you?  
A: Never, I'm a good kid.

Q: What will you major in?  
A: Business management.

Q: How long have you wanted to go there?  
A: Since the day of my conception.

## Nicholas Townes

Q: How do you plan on paying for it?  
A: Hopefully a full-ride scholarship.

Q: What's your favorite thing about Western Michigan?  
A: It's nice, big and clean.

Q: What are you majoring in?  
A: Physical therapy.

Q: Where is Western Michigan?  
A: Kalamazoo, Michigan.






Varsity Boys' Soccer Team



# BECOME A legend



ou Merrillville High, we're purple and white Merr  
o stand, you're the best in the land, for we know  
Rah! Rah! So back up that ball Merrillville High,  
le High, our team is the fame protector, on team  
u Merrillville High. Go Pirates Go! Go Pirates Go  
We're loyal to you Merrillville High, we're purple  
back you to stand, you're the best in the land, fo  
rillville High. Rah! Rah! So back up that ball Merr  
Merrillville High, our team is the fame protector,  
from you Merrillville High. Go Pirates Go! Go Pi

**W**hat distinguishes Merrillville athletes from our opponents? Is it our ability to command the field? Is it our dedication to play until the clock runs out? Or is it our understanding that a team is a family?

Though this is all true. Merrillville athletes are not extraordinary based on talent alone, but based on the qualities we shape through our performances on and off the field.

Merrillville athletes are molded from strength, humility, perseverance and integrity. These qualites do not only bring us victories, but make us legendary. "Champions aren't made in the gym. Champions are made from something they have deep inside them — a desire, a dream, a vision." —Muhammad Ali



# WE FEAR nobody

In stances ready to fire off the ball low and hard are Senior offensive linemen Lawrence Scroggins (63), James Travis (71) and Valantis Astas (59). "I like coming into games with a chip on my shoulder and confidence. A mean streak," Astas said. "We have a lot of weapons with a killer O-line," Scroggins said about the Pirate offense.

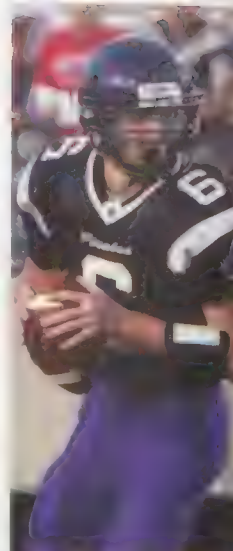


Eyes staring at an open field, the only thing running through Senior wide receiver Sanchez Tate Jr.'s (34) mind is to score. "Before the snap of the ball, I think to mess the person up in front of me so he doesn't want to play anymore and just go hard," Tate said. Tate was also one of the team's captains this year.



With a full body extension stretching all the way out, Senior wide receiver Louis Craig (85) makes a catch over LaPorte's Dalton Knapp (33). "I came in the game a little over confident," Craig said. "We have 11 guys working hard, moving down the field, moving bodies," Craig added. Craig contributed to the 31-0 win over LaPorte with seven catches for 56 yards.

As he reads the defense, Junior quarterback Zachary Raspovich (6) searches for receivers. "He is a good quarterback. He came a long ways since his starting days last year," Senior wide receiver Louis Craig said. With time in the season, Raspovich had been completing more passes and, when nothing was there, rushing for yards.



Fear turned into confidence as the 2009 football team enjoyed a 12-2 season and won the regional championship.

At the outset, many questioned how the team would perform without the seniors from the class of 2009. Those fears turned out to be unfounded.

"I expected us to do well this season. The mentality and mindset of this team is the same," Junior Jory Cunningham said.

"I think the team performed as one unit each game and were focused on taking it one game at a time," Senior Landau Lang said.

Underclassmen came prepared to play in varsity games.

"Losing seniors always has an effect on the team, but we had people step up and fill in positions," Junior Zachary Raspovich said.

The first loss to Warren Central, 49-16 was not going to stop the team. Only victories followed.

"The guys got a better understanding of the scheme and got used to playing in these types of games. We were always a step ahead of our opponents," Head Coach Zac Wells said.

They earned championship titles in the Duneland Athletic Conference and at sectionals and the regionals.

The team's season ended in the semistate game against Carmel, 42-0.

The team learned more than just the game of football.

"We helped them with life lessons," Coach Wells said. "They learned to have accountability for their actions and how to improve on and off the field to move forward in the right direction."







Leadership & Mr. Zip:  
Sanchez Tate Jr.,  
Most Improved:  
Jovan Trenoski,  
Sportsmanship:  
Lawrence Scroggins and  
Most Valuable Player:  
James Travis.



Touchdown in mind,  
Senior wide receiver  
Christian Matthews  
(12), after catching the  
ball, runs to score on  
Portage's defense. "I  
just want to win and  
do what I have to do  
to help the Merrillville  
Pirates come out with a  
victory," Matthews said.  
Matthews plans to play  
college football and is  
looking into Northern  
Illinois University. The  
Pirates beat Portage  
49-27.

After a fumble recovery, Senior defensive back Dominique Gray runs down the field stiff-arming LaPorte's Max Kessler (90). Gray stayed focused on blocks and tried to score a defensive touchdown. "Our defense goes hard and we attack our keys very well," Gray said.



## VARSIY FOOTBALL RECORD

L	49 — 16
	Warren Central
W	28 — 14
	Andean
W	38 — 14
	Crown Point
W	49 — 27
	Portage
W	25 — 13
	Michigan City
W	31 — 0
	LaPorte
W	35 — 7
	Valparaiso
W	21 — 7
	Lake Central
W	24 — 20
	Chesterton
W	31 — 0
	Sectional
W	20 — 13
	Sectional
W	9 — 3
	Sectional
W	28 — 27
	Regional
L	42 — 0
	Semi-state

Season Record

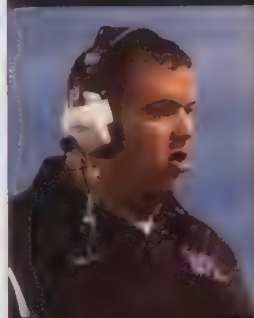
2 - 2

OAC Record

0

Q: What qualities  
do you look for in  
defensive linemen?

A: "In defensive linemen,  
I look for strength,  
speed, and the overall  
ability to be coached  
and respectful students  
who respect the game."  
-Coach Derek  
Thompson



ASK THE COACH



# NEVER THE underdog

*Leadership:*  
Theofilos Makarounas,  
*Most Improved:*  
Paxton Berlanga,  
*Sportsmanship:*  
Brandon Brack and  
*Most Valuable Player:*  
Michael Enghofer.



After saving the ball from getting into the goal, Senior goalkeeper Brandon Brack prepares to kick the ball back into the field for another play. Brack has been playing soccer for 14 years and hopes to continue playing at Valparaiso University, Indiana Purdue Fort Wayne or St. Joseph College.



While concentrating on his footwork, Senior forward and midfielder Allen Amitoelau (8) scurries down the field. Amitoelau said that although the team had a setback with a teammate's injury, many of the remaining players stepped up to help finish the season strong.



After losing half the team to graduation, the boys' varsity Soccer Team had to take on extra roles and responsibilities to help lead the team to victory.

The boys started out strong, winning their first three games and came out with a win against rival Andean High School.

Just as things started to look up for the team, injury occurred early in the season to one of the key defensive players, Senior Theofilos Makarounas. Losing Makarounas not only had a physical, but also an emotional effect for all the players on the team.

"Theo is the heart and soul of the team. He is the captain that lights everyone's fire," boys' varsity soccer Coach Brian Past said.

The team had trouble adjusting after

Makarounas' loss, but they did not get discouraged. The team worked to make Makarounas proud and decided to dedicate their season to him.

"We're fighting for him," Junior Anthony Angotti said. The team will take another major hit graduating 15 seniors this year. Coach Past is expecting to have one of the youngest teams ever. He is encouraging junior varsity players to work hard in the off season to strengthen their soccer skills.

The graduating seniors had some wise words of encouragement for next year's team. Senior Ian Fultz said, "Enjoy the season while you can. It goes way too fast. Leave it all on the field." Makarounas added, "Go hard, and even when you're the underdog, play like you're on top."





Front row: Paxton Berlanga, Steven Guzek, Christopher Stojanovski, Brandon Brack, Walter Barcenas, Anthony Angotti; Second row: Keith Yockey, Frank Traina, Ajay Patel, Ian Fultz, Benjamin Kepchar, Allen Amitoelau, Peter Berlanga, Nicolas Mojica, Theofilos Makarounas; Back row: Coach Rick Hurey, Coach Brad Daniel, Juan Ayala, Juan Hernandez, Arturo Garcia, James Ooms Jr., Michael Enghofer, Coach Jon Gutierrez, Coach Brian Past, Manager Brittney Castelli.



While executing teamwork, Senior center midfielder Michael Enghofer (10) blocks Andean's Matt Anderson (8) for Senior forward and midfielder Allen Amitoelau (8). Both Enghofer and Amitoelau plan to continue playing soccer after graduation.

Hoping to assist, Junior sweeper Anthony Angotti (4) makes way for Senior defender Theofilos Makarounas (14) as he head butts the ball. The team took a hit as Makarounas suffered from a torn ACL that put him out for the remainder of the season. "He is one of three captains who was the heart and soul of the team. Not having him really hampered the team," Coach Brian Past said.



Shoulder to shoulder, Senior defense and right back Benjamin Kepchar (1) and John Tartareanu (10) from Andean fight for the ball. Kepchar thought that even though this season's team lost a bit of chemistry, they have pulled together to finish the season in a way that they were proud of.

Varsity Boys' Soccer Record

W	1 — 0
	East Chicago Central
T	0 — 0
	Wheeler
W	3 — 2
	Andean
W	4 — 2
	LaPorte
W	3 — 0
	Kankakee Valley
L	3 — 0
	Chesterton
W-T	1 — 1 — 1
	Hoosier Cup Invite
L	2 — 0
	Valparaiso
L	7 — 0
	Munster
W	1 — 0
	Michigan City
W	10 — 2
	Hobart
L	5 — 3
	Crown Point
L	3 — 2
	West Lafayette
T	1 — 1
	Lafayette Jefferson
L	7 — 0
	Lake Central
L	5 — 0
	Ft. Wayne Canterbury
L	3 — 2
	Portage
L	3 — 2
	Sectional

Season Record  
7 - 10 - 3  
DAC Record  
2 - 5



Q: What is your favorite part about coaching soccer?  
A: "The best thing about coaching is seeing freshmen coming in to play soccer and, by the time they're seniors, they've become a soccer player."  
-Coach Brian Past

ASK THE coach



# CHAMPIONS *A* Heart

The girls' Soccer Team proved that success is not only measured by the score at the end of the game; it can also be measured by how the team had grown together over the season.

"We got off to a rocky start but, now we're really starting to get rolling," Senior Jellicia Rivera said. The girls put aside their differences and began to only be concerned with the game. "That mentality is what's getting us through each and every game," Junior Gabriela Ponce said.

The girls had to get along off of the field in order for them to play well together in the game. "Sometimes we'll just all go to one girl's house to hang around, watch movies, and eat a lot of food," Senior captain Nicole Brindley said.

Over summer break, the girls

conditioned themselves to get ready for the upcoming season. According to Junior Daniella Carbajal, "That [conditioning] is the hardest part of soccer. It is so much work getting myself back into shape!"

The season was off to a good start with a 3-0 win against Laporte High School, but it proved to be another tough season for the girls' Soccer Team. "There were times when it felt like we couldn't get a break, but we all stuck it out," Freshmen Brittney Brack said.

Although the team's record did not quite reflect their determination and willingness to work together, the team was not hindered. "I'm proud of everyone. We did our best and grew together as a team and in the end, I think that's what it's all about," Brindley said.

As she runs to get the ball away from the opposing team, Freshman forward Lacey Richards (22) passes her opponent and keeps her eye on the ball. "I'm always thinking about whom I'm kicking the ball to and what I'm going to do after I kick it," Richards said.



Fighting off two players from Highland High School, Junior mid-fielder Sydney Harold (3) gets the ball first. "I would really like to continue playing, but I doubt I'll have the opportunity. I think I would rather focus strictly on school," Harold said.

Leadership:  
Jellicia Rivera,  
Most Valuable Player:  
Nicole Brindley,  
Sportsmanship:  
Gabriela Ponce and  
Most Improved:  
Nakel McClinton.



With control over the ball, Freshman forward Brittney Brack (4) is aware that Highland High School's player is beside her. "The season is going worse than planned, but we are improving," Brack said. Brack played the position of forward on the girls' Soccer Team.







Front row: Daniella Carbajal, Amy Aponte, Nicole Brindley, Miranda Stewart, Eleni Kazonis; Second row: Mya Mayfield, Lacey Richards, Natalia Ooms, Victoria Verduzco, Brittney Brack, Jill Ross, Jellicia Rivera, Gabriela Ponce; Back row: Coach Julie Collins, Nakel McClinton, Sydney Harold, Coach Ben Daniel, Morgan Orosz, Alexandra Domoras, Coach Jason Kendera.



While looking for her teammates, Junior defender Mya Mayfield (1) kicks the ball away from her opponent. "I get pumped for a game by listening to rock music and warming up with the team before I take the field," Mayfield said. "Teamwork is very important in soccer. It's not an individual sport. Without teamwork your team will not go far," Mayfield added.



In a game verses Laporte High School, Senior captain mid-fielder Nicole Brindley (10) keeps her head in the game. "When being captain, you have to be willing to be the leader and take on any responsibility," Brindley said. "For the up coming girls, have heart and determination," Brindley stated.

## ASK THE coach

**Q:** Do you plan on changing anything you did this season to help next season?

**A:** Starting with open gym through the winter and spring. Also, a heavier conditioning load in the summer."  
-Coach Ben Daniel

### Season Record

- 17 - 1

### DAC Record

- 6

## VARSITY GIRLS' SOCCER RECORD

T	1 — 1
L	East Chicago Central
L	2 — 0
W	Wheeler
L	3 — 2
L	LaPorte
L	6 — 0
L	Highland
L	9 — 0
L	Chesterton
L	6 — 0
L-L	Kankakee Valley
L	3 — 0, 4 — 0
L	Hoosier Cup Invite
L	10 — 0
L	Valparaiso
L	4 — 3
L	Andean
L	5 — 0
L	Griffith
L	4 — 3
L	Michigan City
L	5 — 0
L	Crown Point
L	5 — 0
L	Munster
L	6 — 0
L	Lake Central
L	4 — 2
L	Hobart
L	3 — 1
L	Boone Grove
L	4 — 1
L	Portage
L	5-0
	Sectional



# IT'S A set-up

As she gets ready to set the ball for one of her teammates, Sophomore outside hitter Megan Dicken (4) focuses on her fundamentals. "The crowd noise really pumps me up during the game," Dicken said. She was inspired to play on the volleyball team by her sister and will continue to play as long as she is happy doing it.



Jumping to spike the ball straight to the other side to an Andean High School player, Sophomore outside hitter Mackenzie Milon (1) gains some height. "I plan to play volleyball at Penn State after I graduate," Milon said. "I was inspired by a nun in fifth grade to play volleyball because of my height," she added.



Front row: Kelsey Sajdera, Emily Kurczynski, Amanda Banashak, Kiara McLaurin, Natalie Riechers, Korey Loudermilk; Back row: Coach Tianna Coleman, Coach Luke Starkey, Ashley Jamerson, Mackenzie Milon, Coach Mark Ciesielski, Kayla Wiggins, Megan Dicken, Coach Virtina Savage, Coach Jane Warren.



Varsity volleyball Coach Mark Ciesielski frequently tells his players, "never play down; play at our level every game no matter who we play."

Having a rather young team this season with only four seniors, Coach Ciesielski expected his players to work hard.

"Trying my hardest and succeeding in what ever comes my way is my biggest personal goal for this season," Senior all around player Korey Loudermilk said.

Talent level was not an obstacle for the Pirates this season, but putting all of the pieces together at one time was.

"We have talent. We just haven't been able to have all the talents click on the same night," Coach Ciesielski said.

As the players prepared during the summer for the new season, they had some goals in mind.

"As a team goal for this season, I think playing as a team and not as individuals is a big plus," Junior back row player Kelsey Sajdera said.

Throughout the season, confidence never dropped and mental attitude had been brought out.

"Can't play as a team, you can't succeed," Sophomore outside hitter Megan Dicken said.

Senior outside hitter Kiara McLaurin said team bonding helped to build "team trust." Many players said they believed that key elements in team bonding are believing in their teammates and themselves.

"Live each moment like it's your last, have no regrets, and have fun! Savor your senior year, it goes by the fastest," Senior libero Natalie Riechers said as her advice for the next year's team and seniors.







*Most Improved:*  
Kayla Wiggins,  
*Sportsmanship:*  
Megan Dicken,  
*Leadership:*  
Emily Kurczynski and  
*Most Valuable Player:*  
Ashley Jamerson.



*In the game against Lake Central High School, Senior all around player Korey Loudermilk (7) gets ready to bump the ball to a teammate. "My most embarrassing moment while playing volleyball was when I was spiked in the face during sectionals my junior year," Loudermilk said. "Teamwork is very important because you need everyone to be on their game," she added.*

*When serving the ball, Senior libero Natalie Riechers (8) said, "I aim for the middle of the court also known as position 6. Also, I keep repeating in my head hit it hard, get it over, and get it in," Riechers said. "This year the season is going worse than planned because we didn't think we would be losing, but the team could be going worse because our talent is not coming through," she noted.*



*Bumping to a setter, Sophomore passer Amanda Banashak (10) keeps her eye on the ball. "Teamwork is very important and even though the season started out bad, it is really getting better and we all get along," she said. Banashak plays the back row on the varsity girl's team.*

**VARSITY VOLLEYBALL RECORD**

L	3 — 0
	Griffith
L	3 — 0
	Lowell
12th	LaPorte Tourney
L	3 — 0
	Andrean
L	3 — 0
	Crown Point
L	3 — 0
	Lake Central
L	3 — 0
	Chesterton
2nd	KV Classic
L	3 — 0
	Valparaiso
L	3 — 0
	LaPorte
L	3 — 0
	Michigan City
L	3 — 0
	Portage
L	3 — 0
	Crown Point
L	3 — 0
	Lake Central
11th	CP Varsity Tourney
L	3 — 1
	Chesterton
L	3 — 0
	Valparaiso
7th	Terry White Invite
L	3 — 0
	LaPorte
L	3 — 0
	Michigan City
L	3 — 1
	Portage
L	3 — 1
	Sectional

Season Record  
10 - 18  
OAC Record  
10 - 14



**Q:** What's the difference between a good and great volleyball player?  
**A:** "A good player plays for the team. A great player has determination for the game and plays the best they can."  
—Coach Mark Ciesielski

**ASK THE coach**



# UNITY IN Adversity

Front row: James Schilling, Joseph Brady, Leonard Mathews II, Brandon Shea, Najeb Ariffee, Dylan Crane, Mansoor Ariffee; Back row: Coach James Simon, Tyler Shockey, Colin Burke, Kenneth Walsh, Luqmann Ruth, Kyle Papp, Coach Kyle Prow.



Ready to hit the ball, number one singles Sophomore Leonard Mathews II focuses on returning the ball to his opponent. Mathews has played tennis for nearly ten years. "Before games, I'm really goofy so I can try and relax," Mathews said. Mathews had a record of 21-1, which helped the overall team. Mathews advanced to state as an individual and placed fourth.



To reach for the ball, number two singles Senior Colin Burke extends his arm to full length. Burke plans to attend the University of Southern Indiana and to continue to play tennis. "All the underclassmen need to work hard and practice during winter to be prepared for next year's season," Burke said.

Focused on the ball, number one doubles Sophomore Tyler Shockey serves to the opposing team. With only three years of tennis experience, Shockey made the varsity team his sophomore year. Shockey wants to continue to play throughout high school and college.



With the loss of many key players to graduation, the boys' Tennis Team faced a rebuilding year.

New to varsity competition this year were the number one doubles team of Junior Brandon Shea and Sophomore Tyler Shockey and the number two doubles team of Sophomore Luqmann Ruth and Freshman Joseph Brady.

They joined number one singles Sophomore Leonard Mathews II, number two singles Senior Colin Burke and number three singles Senior Kyle Papp in the varsity line-up.

At times, Papp said, "the team struggled. Playing with new players, it's hard to play with someone new."

Senior Najeb Ariffee has been on the team since his freshman year. He said the adversity brought the team together.

"As a team we are a lot stronger, such as hitting the ball better," Ariffee said. "We're closer together. We're working with more difficult techniques."

The one point for the match the team could always rely on was Mathews, who qualified for regionals but lost before advancing to the semi-state competition.

The boys celebrated wins against Chesterton (3-2), Michigan City (5-0), Lowell (3-2) and Hobart (3-2), but during the sectional competition, Hobart came back to beat them 3-2.

Papp said the players "became more of a team, more supportive" as the season progressed and the team suffered losses to the other DAC teams.

"Some of the players improved," Burke noted, "and the underclassmen really stepped up."





Pauline Laorden photo illustration



*Most Improved:*  
Kyle Papp,  
*Leadership:*  
Najeb Arifee,  
*Most Valuable Player:*  
Leonard Mathews II and  
*Sportsmanship:*  
Colin Burke.



*In the match against Highland, number two doubles Sophomore Luqmann Ruth reaches his arm backwards. "Before each match, I say a little prayer to keep me focused," Ruth said. Ruth has played tennis since seventh grade and is looking forward to next year.*

*Trying to save the ball from hitting the ground, number one doubles Senior Najeb Arifee leans forward. "Losing those three seniors last year did not hurt us at all. It actually made us stronger," Arifee said. Before every match Arifee gave inspirational speeches to get the team ready for matches.*



Varsity Boys' Tennis Record

L	3 — 2
	Highland
L	4 — 1
	Wheeler
3rd	Noblesville Tourney
W	3 — 2
	Chesterton
L	3 — 2
	Lake Central
L	3 — 2
	Valparaiso
L	4 — 1
	Crown Point
6th	Warsaw Invite
L	4 — 1
	LaPorte
L	3 — 2
	Portage
6th	MHS Invitational
W	3 — 2
	Hobart
W	5 — 0
	Michigan City
W	3 — 2
	Lowell
L	4 — 1
	Munster
L	3 — 2
	Sectional

Season Record  
- 9  
OAC Record  
- 5



*Q: What do you consider a good tennis player?*  
*A: "A good tennis player runs after every ball, never gives up and is skilled in tennis mechanics."*  
*-Coach James Simon*

ASK THE coach

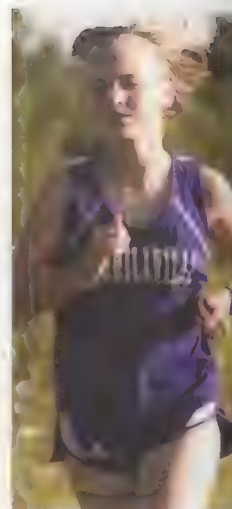


# RUNNING THE distance

Front row: John Costakis, James Posey, Dylan Harrison, Anthony Miranda, Adam Serwacki, Christopher Huley, Francis Dusik; Back row: Kevin Carvana, Cordney Ellis, Coach Michael Hoffman, Jacob Caddick, Kyle Shroeder.



As a new member of the team, Victoria Collins wants to put her best foot forward this season. "Over the course of the season, I have really improved and I will continue to do just that," Collins said.



Front row: Brenda Pidgeon, Victoria Collins, Megan Vinson, Antoinette Thurman; Back row: Shyora Tolbert, Kurledia Thomas, Coach Aaron Crawn, Amber Scollon, Jamie Roberts.



With a team full of upperclass boys and a team full of underclass girls, the Cross Country Teams were both experienced and inexperienced.

The boys' team returned mostly juniors and a few new guys.

"Dylan Harrison is new and he is putting up amazing times," Junior Francis Dusik said.

Even with a few people on the team, they formed a bond. They were friends in and out of school.

The team also had a strong bond with their coach, Mr. Michael Hoffman.

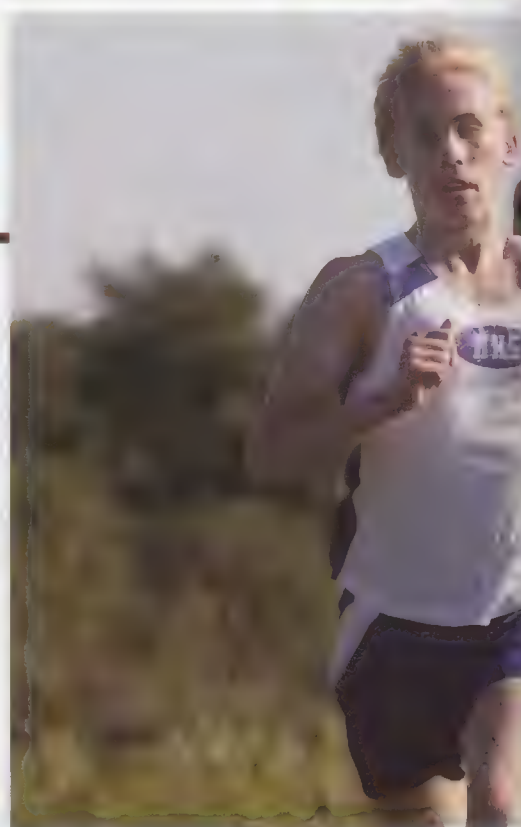
"He is a good coach. He knows what preparing is needed. He is a good motivator and a great coach," Sophomore Adam Serwacki said.

The girls' Cross Country Team was inexperienced. They returned no runners from last year and there were only three girls on the team this year.

"We don't really have a team leader because we are all new, and there is nobody that can tell us about everything and how everything goes," Freshman Megan Vinson said.

The girls improved throughout the course, trimming three minutes off their times.

As for the boys, there were high expectations for Juniors Jacob Caddick and Dylan Harrison. Both boys were in the running in advancing out of regionals, after the team placed fourth in sectionals.







Front row:  
Leadership:  
Victoria Collins,  
Sportsmanship:  
Amber Scollon and  
Most Valuable Player:  
Megan Vinson;  
Back row:  
Sportsmanship:  
John Costakis,  
Leadership:  
Kyle Schroeder,  
Most Improved:  
Jacob Caddick and  
Most Valuable Player:  
Dylan Harrison.



Picking up his speed as he nears the finish line, the only thing going through Junior Francis Dusik's mind is "to pass as many guys as humanly possible." Dusik also said he ignored any pain that he may have been feeling. "Sometimes I would feel a cramp or a pain in either of my knees, but I just pushed through the pain and finished the race as hard as I could."

The course that Juniors Dylan Harrison, Jacob Caddick, Kevin Caruana and Kyle Shroeder took was flat and muddy, but the boys trudged through the terrain making their way to the finish. "We do our best to stay near each other throughout the race. Most people don't know it's a team effort," Caddick said. Caddick advanced to the regionals, where he placed eighth at 17:30. At semi-state, Caddick placed 31st at 17:04.



In his first season with the Cross Country Team, Junior Dylan Harrison paces himself before the last few minutes of the race. "The goal I've set for myself this season is to finish the 5K in less than 16 minutes," Harrison said. With a time of 16:40, Harrison came in first place at the Crown Point Sectional and at regionals he came in first and trimmed his time to 16:37. At semi-state, he placed third at 16:07.

## VARSIY CROSS COUNTRY RECORDS

Boys' Scores	
L	23 — 38
	Portage
8th of 18	
	T. F. South Invite
L	23 — 38
	Lake Central
W	24 — 33
	Michigan City
6th of 24	
	Rensselaer Invite
L	19 — 44
	La Porte
L	16 — 47
	Valparaiso
19th of 37	
	New Prairie Invite
L	20 — 41
	Chesterton
L	20 — 43
	Crown Point
8th of 21	
	Highland Invite
7th of 8	
	DAC Invite
4th of 12	
	Sectional
8th of 10	
	Regional

Girls' Scores	
L	15 — 50
	Lake Central
L	15 — 48
	Michigan City
L	22 — 38
	LaPorte
L	15 — 50
	Valparaiso
L	15 — 50
	Crown Point
L	15 — 50
	Chesterton

### DAC Records

Boys': 1 - 6

Girls': 0 - 6

**Q: What do you want your athletes to know?**

**A:** "These boys and girls are some of the hardest workers I know. Cross Country requires speed, agility, perseverance and a great amount of endurance. To embody all of those qualities is true greatness."

—Coach Michael Hoffman



**ASK THE coach**



# NO RECKLESS drivers

With a total of 11 girls, five veterans and six newcomers, the girls' Golf Team has grown since the last season.

Many of the newcomers came to the sport with no golf background. They decided to play golf to get involved. The girls found out that golf is a mental and physical sport.

"It takes just as much time and dedication as any other sport," Senior Alexis Connelly said. Connelly has been playing golf since her freshman year, so she has found a way to fit golf into her schedule.

But since playing golf was new for some of the girls, they learned it is not very easy to balance golf with their school work.

Head Coach Dave Hinkel had high hopes for his girls this season.

"My expectations were for them to improve," Coach Hinkel said. "And they did."

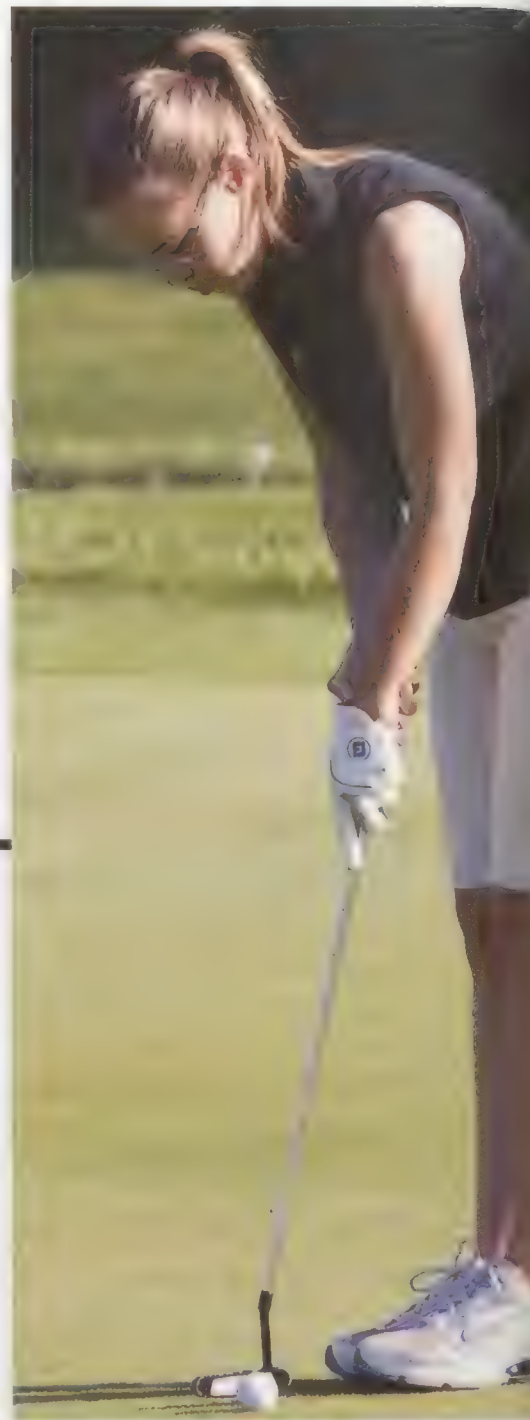
Coach Hinkel said that it was easier to see improvements in the new girls' games than the more experienced girls.

The girls felt that they had done well as a whole. Losing Seniors Erin Marek and Kelly Sarsfield last year meant that Coach Hinkel had to rely on the younger girls.

"They were missed, but the younger girls stepped up and took over," Coach Hinkel said.

"I play nine holes every weekend," Sophomore Jeannette Burbage said.

Before matches, the girls had different ways to get ready. Junior Kelsey Washburn said she got ready for a match by listening to music. Some of her teammates warm-up and practice on the putting green.



Following through with her shot, Sophomore Katherine Kolbert hits the ball. Kolbert was a first time golfer this year with hopes to continue to play throughout high school. "It's a relaxing sport and I enjoy playing golf," Kolbert said. Kolbert ate and relaxed before each golf match.



As she prepares to putt the ball, Senior Sarah Martin takes a shot. "The positives about having a small team is that everyone is well-acquainted and we have a close-knit group," Martin said. Before each golf match the girls stretch, practice putting, and make sure they have all of their equipment.

Leadership:  
Lauren Carniello,  
Most Valuable Player:  
Alexis Connelly,  
Sportsmanship:  
Sarah Martin and  
Most Improved:  
Jeanette Burbage.



After she completes her shot, Senior Patricia Millard keeps her eye on the ball. "Being on the golf team is something I enjoy, even though no one really knows about the girls' Golf Team. We are really close," Millard said. Millard has played since her sophomore year.







Front row: Alexis Connelly, Katherine Kolbert, Latonya Harrison, Sarah Martin, Patricia Millard, Lauren Carniello; Back row: Erin Segrest, Natieka Mathews, Jeanette Burbage, Kelsey Washburn, Mofoluwaso Ibikunie-Salami.

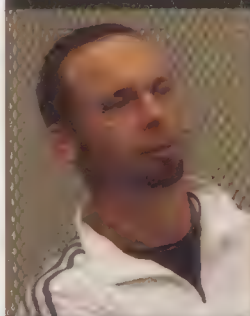


As she gazes at the green, Senior Alexis Connelly gazes down the course. "To prepare for a match, I warm up and chip and putt," Connelly said. As a way to get involved, Connelly has been playing golf since her freshman year.



With concentration, Junior Kelsey Washburn hits the ball. "I always thought about playing golf after high school," Washburn said. Washburn said that golf is a challenging sport. "Unlike any other sport it doesn't consist of throwing a ball. It takes time and patience," Washburn added.

## ASK THE coach



Q: Is coaching easier than teaching?  
A: "No, because teaching gives you more restraints whereas coaching you get to utilize more and be more creative"  
-Coach Dave Hinkel

### Season Record

2 - 11

### DAC Record

0 - 7

## VARSIITY GIRLS' GOLF RECORD

13th	Valpo Classic
10th	KV Invite
W	235 — 295
	Boone Grove
L	203 — 227
	Rensselaer Central
7th	DAC Invite
L	194 — 238
	LaPorte
L	181 — 210 — 247
	Chesteron/Lowell
L	196 — 225
	Munster
L	252 — 269
	Michigan City
L	231 — 232
	Hobart
L	221 — 234
	Crown Point
L	194 — 233
	Valparaiso
W	233 — 243
	Andean
L	186 — 247
	Lake Central
L	203 — 216
	Portage
L	201 — 241
	Highland
6th	Sectional



# NOTHING BUT net

Five starting players, three returning seniors and one goal in mind. The 2009-2010 varsity boys' Basketball Team exceeded expectations with a Duneland Athletic Conference record of 12-2.

"The season is going good so far, but we lost two very close games that we could have won," Senior power forward Jason Simpson said.

With three seniors leaving, many believe that the team will remain the same or even get better.

The *Post-Tribune* stated that the 'Big Two,' Junior Jeremiah Jones and Junior Brandon Clark, averaged a total of 29 points per game. With these points, they helped to lead the Pirates to numerous victories.

Many of the boys had the same goal in mind and that goal was to win the sectional

championship.

"I want to be all-conference, all-area and all-state," Jones said.

The boys wanted to advance as far as the girls' team, but, in order to do that, they had to work as a team.

The team pulled it together to win the sectional championship against the Valparaiso High School Vikings with a score of 50-47.

"I felt really good and accomplished about winning. It has been a while since they got one," Junior power forward Olatokunbo Fashawe said.

Although they accomplished their goal, the boys fell short in the regional game against the Warsaw High School Tigers with a score of 64-56.

All and all, the boys enjoyed their season, but wished that it would have lasted just a little bit longer.

Front row: Manager Kenneth Comer, Brandon Smith, La'Quon Clark, André Ross, Brandon Clark, Manager Corey Jacobs; Second row: Manager Kyle Daniels, Anton Redmon Jr., Joshua Hogan, Rico Spikes, Jeremiah Jones, Jason Simpson, Manager Malik Muhammad; Back row: Coach Jim East, Coach David Herring, Vincent Dorsey, Edward Seay Jr., Olatokunbo Fashawe, Coach T.J. Lux, Coach Cliff Hughes.



Looking to split two Crown Point defenders, Junior point guard Brandon Smith (14) drives to the basket. "When I get on the court I'm ready to bring energy, and I'm determined to make us better," Smith said. "Flocka gets everybody hyped to go out on the floor and take care of business," Smith added.

The team listened to the artist prior to the games.



After an offensive rebound on Michigan City's defense, Sophomore center Edward Seay Jr. (52) goes up for a put back. "When I come in the game, I play as hard as I can. I bring a lot of energy to the court," Seay said. Seay was a first-year starter.





"I come into games to rebound and score points," Junior power forward Olatokunbo Fashawe (50) said. Fashawe lays the ball into the basket over Michigan City defenders. "At times I make the team better because of my late game composure," Fashawe said.



Eyes locked on his opponent, Junior captain point guard Brandon Clark (10) plays defense. "Good defense is important," Clark said. "Getting everyone involved in the game is important so no one feels left out. We are one team." Clark finished the game against Lake Central High School with a double-double of 14 points and 11 assists.

Focused on the next move to get past his defender, Senior small and power forward Rico Spikes (30) backs down Lake Central's Glenn Robinson. "I love competition. Playing better, higher ranked teams makes us better and we expect to beat them," Spikes said. "Being one of the captains and one of the only seniors, I help my team by being a leader," Spikes added.

Most Valuable Player: Rico Spikes,  
Sportsmanship: Jason Simpson,  
Most Improved: Edward Seay Jr. and  
Leadership: Jeremiah Jones.

## ASK THE coach



Q: What do you look for in a point guard?  
A: "The most important attribute is his ability to be an extension of the head coach. If the point guard is unable to understand that relationship, we would have a problem."  
-Coach Jim East

## VARSITY BOYS' BASKETBALL RECORD

W	67 — 45
	Highland
W	56 — 55
	Chesterton
W	80 — 74
	LaPorte
W	60 — 49
	Andean
W	63 — 55
	Michigan City
W	81 — 45
	Lake Central
W	61 — 55
	Crown Point
L	61 — 58
	Valparaiso
W	64 — 53
	Portage
W	60 — 58
	LaPorte
L	74 — 71
	Lake Central
W	56 — 42
	Michigan City
W	91 — 35
	Lowell
W	57 — 46
	Crown Point
L	54 — 42
	Munster
W	56 — 42
	Chesterton
W	64 — 59
	Valparaiso
W	75 — 47
	Hobart
W	51 — 42
	Portage
W	73 — 49
	Sectionals
W	62 — 38
	Sectionals
W	50 — 47
	Sectionals
L	64 — 56
	Regionals

Season  
Record  
19 and 4  
OAC  
Record  
12 and 2



# LOVE AND basketball

**Most Valuable Player:**  
Bryonna Davis,  
**Most Improved:**  
Lydia Hawkins,  
**Leadership:**  
Tracee Mitchel and  
**Sportsmanship:**  
Melanee Stubbs.



While dribbling past LaPorte High School players, Senior forward/center Tracee Mitchel (42) anticipates what she will do next to score. "I was glad we were able to win regionals since it was the first time in our school's history," Mitchel said.



Attempting a layup in a game against Crown Point High School, Senior guard Bryonna Davis (22) focuses her aim to be sure that she scores. "The best part about playing basketball is being number one and getting to be in the newspaper," Davis said.

Going up for a jump shot, Sophomore point guard Raveen Murray (14) almost knocks over LaPorte player, Jessica Craft (10) who tries to block her. "Spending time with the team on and off the court is what helped us the most. We have the best team bonding and that's what makes us close," Murray said.



Duneland Athletic Conference check. Sectionals check. Regionals check. Semistate check. State check. While the girls' Basketball Team did not win at state, team members accomplished many goals that they had set at the beginning of the season.

Coming into the season, all five seniors, Lydia Hawkins, Jasmine Wade, Latoi Merriweather, Tracee Mitchel and Bryonna Davis, set their goals to win DAC, sectionals and eventually move onto the state tournament. As their goal became reality, the state game was coming their way.

"We just need to play basketball and try our best, and as long as we try, it does not matter the ending score," Merriweather said.

Although the final score did not come out as wished for, the girls are still happy

with the season.

"Even though we lost, I was proud we made it so far and our accomplishments," Sophomore Raveen Murray said.

"Win or lose, I was very happy," Davis said.

Davis has broken and met seven records this basketball season — most point scored in a season with 559, most points scored in a game with 37, average points per game in the season with 20.7 and most three pointers in a season with 46. Davis has received a full scholarship to Michigan State University, where she will continue her basketball career.

"It is great that these groups of girls were the ones to make history. They deserve it," Head Coach Amy Govert said. "I was so proud of the girls for their effort and overjoyed knowing we were going to state."







Front row: Raveen Murray, Jasmine Wade, Lydia Hawkins, Manager DaSheema Jones, Brianna Thompson, Latoi Merriweather, Bianca Blachard; Second row: Coach Darcie Johnston, Jasmyne Miller, Chambria Brown, Robin Williamson, Bryonna Davis, Amanda Banashak, Tracee Mitchel, Melanee Stubbs, Coach Amy Covert; Back row: Coach Tom Spitzer, Kacey Cole, Trainer Sue Hayes, Coach Rina Molina.



In possession of the ball, Senior guard Jasmine Wade (23) concentrates so she can make her next shot. "Our goal going into the season was to just win sectionals, so I'm glad we made it even further," Wade said.

Putting up her best defense in the game against LaPorte High School, Senior point guard Latoi Merriweather (10) blocks LaPorte player, Katie Kruse (42) from shooting or passing. "The most memorable part of the season was beating Valparaiso on their own court at sectionals and taking the net," Merriweather remarked.



# VARSITY GIRLS' BASKETBALL RECORD

W	91 — 66
	Highland
W	77 — 35
	Andean
W	64 — 55
	Valparaiso
W	67 — 49
	East Chicago Central
W	51 — 39
	Portage
W	63 — 48
	Chesterton
W	58 — 44
	LaPorte
W	74 — 61
	Michigan City
W	60 — 48
	Lake Central
W	61 — 48
	Munster
W	66 — 56
	Crown Point
W	56 — 40
	Valparaiso
W	69 — 59
	Portage
W	76 — 44
	Lowell
W	69 — 39
	LaPorte
W	49 — 39
	Hobart
L	66 — 48
	Lake Central
W	60 — 50
	Chesterton
W	65 — 59
	Michigan City
W	63 — 49
	Crown Point
W	82 — 64
	Sectionals
W	64 — 42
	Sectionals
W	60 — 55
	Sectionals
W	68 — 60
	Regionals
W	55 — 54
	Regionals
W	66 — 53
	Semi State
L	99 — 52
	State

Season  
 Record  
 5 and 2  
 DAC  
 Record  
 3 and 1



Q: What was your strategy going into the state game?  
 A: "In facing the number two team in the nation, our plan was to cut down on turnovers and get all the rebounds."  
 -Coach Amy Covert

## ASK THE coach



# ESCAPE AND takedown

With a record of 19-3, the Wrestling Team finished their season with many accomplishments yet still experienced some disappointments. Having set a goal of advancing the team to state, the team fell short of reaching their objective and failed to advance past sectionals.

"You can never be completely satisfied unless you win a state title. We got beat by some good teams and had to deal with some unfortunate injuries that were out of our control," Head Coach David Maldonado said.

However, the team did experience a major accomplishment at the end of the season, sending three wrestlers to state.

Seniors Zachary Stevens placed seventh, Anthony Napules placed fifth and James Travis placed second in the state tournament.

Even though these three wrestlers did not reach the goals they had set for themselves throughout the season, they still took away many memories from the season and became more dedicated and hardworking.

"I became a better person on and off of the mat," Napules said.

Losing most of the varsity lineup with 14 seniors graduating, the team hopes to still be strong next year.

"Many other teams in the area are also losing around the same number of seniors as we are. We should be just as good," Stevens said.

The graduating seniors offered some encouragement and advice to the underclassmen.

"Keep working hard and don't skip practice," Stevens said. "It will catch up with you in the end."

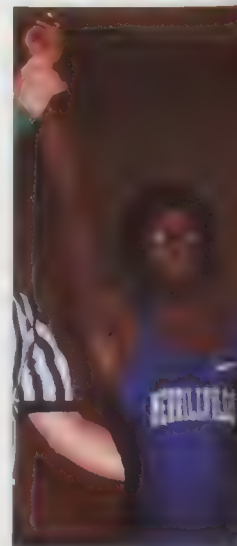


Front row: Adam Brodie, Darius Dabadee, Javier Avalos, Zachary Stevens, Edgar Guadarrama, Bruce Brown Jr., Adam Garcia, Frankie Valdivia, Mansoor Arifee, John Costakis, Darryl Peppers; Second row: Manager Melissa Costakis, Ajay Patel, Eduardo DeLuna, Walter Barcenas, Luis Padilla, Eric Black, Michael Nickson, Anthony Napules, Gabriel Pineda, Erick Acosta, Victor Nzeata, David Cross, Manager Christa Flores; Third row: Manager Emily Kurczynski, Elbryn Goode, James Butler, Derek Taylor Jr., Xavier Ponce, Jordan Diaz, Tyler Houser, Korey Smith, Benjamin Kepchar, Najeb Arifee, Manager Alexandra Domoras; Fourth row: Coach Mike Lawrence, Eric DeLuna, Travis Norman, Alejandro Acosta Jr., Adam Sherwinski, George Papamihalakis, Alejandro Jara, Zachary Sandefur, Peter Berlanga, Coach David Maldonado; Fifth row: Coach Gene Bierman, Kourtney Berry, Martin Flores, Cordney Ellis, Jeremy Wengel, Anthony Kidd, James Travis, Valanti Atsas, Coach Rob Petyko.

While pinning his opponent, Sophomore Michael Nickson, weight class 215, says his hardest opponent was Nate Cleveland from Lowell High School. Nickson has been wrestling for three years and would like to continue throughout his high school career.



Posing with his hand raised high, Senior Victor Nzeata stands victorious. "Usually before a match I prepare by listening to music and try to get prepared mentally," Nzeata said. Nzeata joined wrestling his sophomore year, but does not plan on continuing to wrestle in the future.





Wrestling a heavyweight from Valparaiso High School. Senior James Travis focuses on getting him down for the pin. After placing at regionals. Travis went on to place second overall at state. Travis has wrestled throughout all four years of high school.



Leadership:  
Zachary Stevens,  
Most Improved:  
Jeremy Wengel,  
Sportsmanship:  
David Cross and  
Most Valuable Player:  
James Travis.



In the middle of a takedown, Senior Zachary Stevens tries to pin his opponent and win the match. Stevens placed at regionals and went on to place seventh overall at state. "I try to calm down and prepare myself mentally before each meet," Stevens said.



While trying to take down his opponent, Senior Jeremy Wengel, weight class 171, focuses on going for the pin. "I listen to music to calm myself down and try not to get nervous. I have to get mentally focused to go out to the match," Wengel said. Wengel has been wrestling for six year and is undecided if he wants to continue after high school.

## ASK THE coach



Q: If you could change one thing about the season, what would it be?

A: "The only thing I would change about the season is fewer injuries, but we can't help that."  
-Coach David Maldonado

## VARSITY WRESTLING RECORD

W	58 — 10
	Valparaiso
	LaPorte Duals
W	62 — 6
	LaPorte
W	84 — 0
	Hammond High
W	76 — 6
	Culver
W	72 — 6
	Thorton High
W	58 — 10
	Wawasee
W	39 — 18
	Portage
	Tom Cameron Invite
W	72 — 6
	Boone Grove
W	48 — 20
	Kankakee Valley
W	61 — 10
	S.B. Clay
W	79 — 0
	West Lafayette
W	48 — 24
	Chesterton
2nd	Mishawaka Invitational
L	35 — 26
	Crown Point
2nd	Oakville Duals
W	50 — 21
	Lake Central
2nd	DAC Tournament
W	68 — 9
	Michigan City
1st	Sectionals
L	41 — 14
	Regionals

Season  
Record  
14 and 2  
DAC Record  
5 and 1



# MAKE *A*splash

**W**hile the swim season progressed, the team began to stress, stressing for what most athletes would say is a good reason.

Sectionals are the team's last and final chance to take a shot at advancing to state.

Taking that shot means minimal mistakes and top notch speed.

"Sectional time is what I have been pushing toward all year," Junior Autry Phillips said.

To get their times down, team members shaved their bodies from head to toe.

"Shaving our bodies for sectionals to get our times down is good team bonding," Phillips added.

Shaving their heads, arms, shoulders, knees and toes may give them the tenth of a second they need next year during

tournament time.

"We are always hanging out, having fun and doing crazy stuff together," Junior Messay Crawford-Taylor said.

"The best part about the Swim Team is that we are a family," Crawford-Taylor added.

Even with no members of the team advancing to state, their year was fulfilled.

For next year's team, conditioning will start earlier. There will be heavy running, weightlifting and, of course, swimming.

"Next year should be a little better because we have a lot of people coming back," Crawford-Taylor said.

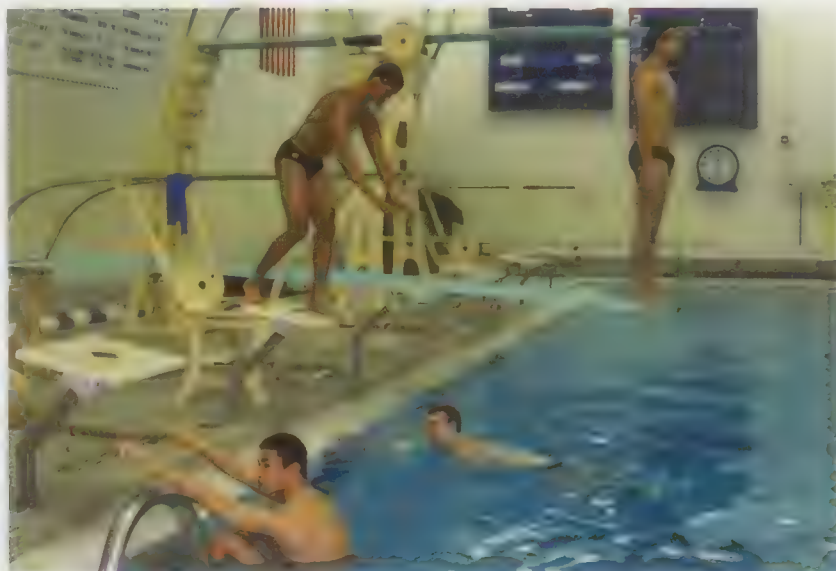
"Swimming next year should be good, with a lot of us being seniors. We will have the experience we need too," Phillips said.

*To swim the breaststroke, Freshman Markus Kluga swings his arms behind his back and takes a deep breath. He joined the Swim Team as a swim veteran, after starting to swim at age five. "I believe that the butterfly stroke is the most complicated. It is extremely hard and takes the most energy," Kluga said.*



*"My sister was the one who inspired me. When she went here she was also a diver," Junior Alexander Matthews said. Matthews carries a blue chamois with him to every match for good luck. With Matthews' best score of 206 points, Matthew said the hardest dive is the full twist one and a half.*

*Most Valuable Player: Jacob Caddick,  
Sportsmanship: Juan Rivera,  
(In the water)  
Leadership: Colin Burke,  
Most Improved: Kyle Schroeder.*



*Ready to slip into the water to complete his dive, Junior Darren Blaylock focuses to enter the water straight. "Diving is a better fit for me because I feel like it is more exciting than swimming," Blaylock said. Diving since freshman year, Blaylocks' best score is 200. "My cousin inspired me to join, and since I never dove before, I wanted to try something new," Blaylock said.*







Front row: Darren Blaylock, Daniel Martinez Jr., Jaylen Lynch, David Venzke Jr., David Rodriguez; Second row: Jacob Pardus, Dallas Coleman Jr., Khalil Buchanan, Autry Phillips, Steven Crague, Jonathan Harman, Shermika Winston; Third row: Coach Sara Stallings, Nicholas Badali, Alexander Matthews, Colin Burke, Robert Dominick-Warren, Juan Rivera, Jordan Reaves, Manager Angelica Hernandez, Manager Danielle Winburn; Back row: Coach Jeremy Boyer, Coach Ladd Downham, Brandon Culver, David Jordan, Messay Crawford-Taylor, Kyle Schroeder, Jacob Caddick, Justin Koenemann, Randall Bultema Jr., Jeanpierre Cardenas.



"I think the reverse twister dive is the hardest. It takes a psychological toll on you. It can be fun once you do it the right way," Senior Juan Rivera says. During his freshman year, Rivera stayed after school and discovered diving. Rivera chose diving over swimming because he said it was more athletically challenging.



With both arms moving simultaneously, Senior Colin Burke swims the butterfly stroke. A member of the Swim Team for four years, Burke was named captain at the start of the season, along with Junior Jacob Caddick. "I was honored to have been chosen to lead such an excellent group of swimmers this year," Burke said.

## ASK THE coach



Q: What does it take to be a successful swimmer?  
A: It takes desire, dedication, determination, brains, strong work ethic, good listening skills and an ability to have fun with your swimming family.  
-Coach Ladd Downham

Season Record  
and 13  
DAC Record  
and 6

## VARSIITY BOYS' SWIMMING RECORD

L	118 — 67
	Portage
L	102 — 81
	Rensselaer Central
L	132 — 54
	Lake Central
L	106 — 80
	Highland
L	114 — 46
	Hobart
L	124 — 58
	Crown Point
L	98 — 88
	Griffith
L	104 — 79
	Kankakee Valley
L	99 — 80
	Lowell
L	143 — 42
	Valparaiso
L	132 — 52
	Munster
L	108 — 75
	Michigan City
W	117 — 66
	Wheeler
L	131 — 55
	Chesterton
8th	DAC
6th	Sectionals



# INTO THE blue

Front row: Brandi Wolak, Rachel Baran, Rebbecca Yugo, Kara Phillips, Destiny Yoder, Regina Torres, Lexua Saez; Second row: Emma Bice, Janay Olague, Taylor Pierce, Crystal Quinter, Kelsey Sajdera, Deanna Venzke, Angelica Hernandez; Third row: Coach Sara Stallings, Hailey Holden, Jillian Sandefur, Kaitynn Sterkowitz, MacKenzie Milton, Kaitlyn Phillips, Brittney Bass, Shermika Winston, Danielle Windburn; Back row: Coach Jeremy Boyer, Coach Ladd Downham, Alyssa James, Jucila Best, Jill Ross, Morgan Gunn, Natalia Ooms, Kasie Antich, Imani Shelby, Tatiana Ruiz, Kathleen Baran.



As she tries to improve her time, Sophomore Mackenzie Milton swims the freestyle during a meet. "It has been a hard season, but every meet, we put everything into it," Milton said.



With incoming freshmen and many new people joining the team, the girls' Swim Team anticipated having a very good season.

"With such a young team, they did well," Assistant Coach Sara Stallings said.

In order to get prepared and focused for a meet, the team has team meetings where they examined previous events and discussed who they would be facing.

Some team members had their own individual ways of getting ready for meets.

Senior Kaitlynn Sterkowitz said, "I listen to music and stay by myself so I can concentrate on what I have to do."

Although the team did well, they still suffered at the beginning of the season from the seniors who left from the previous year.

"I'm not going to say it won't hurt us to lose the seniors this year, but we're only

losing two of them and we have plenty of young kids who are new, so we should be okay," Coach Stallings said.

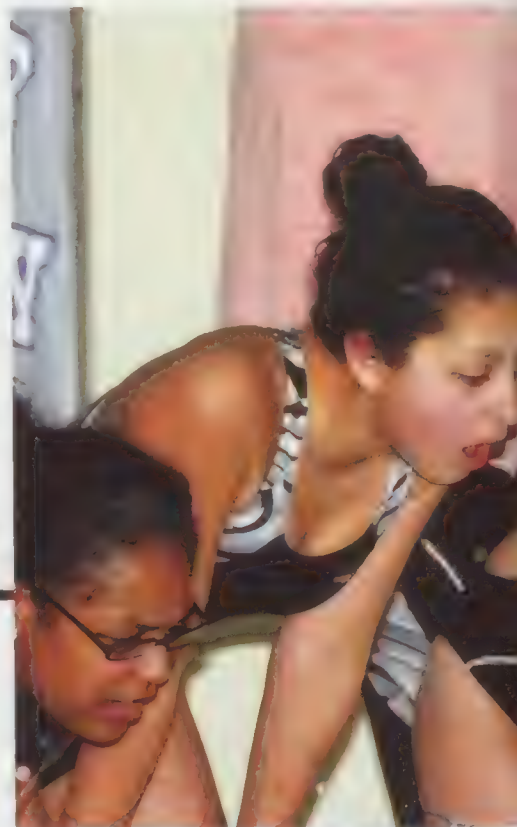
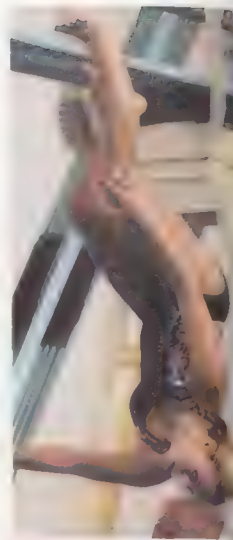
"With new freshmen on the team, the seniors try to help out as much as they can, especially for big meets. It's just up to the freshmen to take the advice," Coach Stallings added.

With all the new team members and seniors who were lost, members of the team had to step up and work harder to improve their times and to get to where they needed to be.

"Everyone had to work extra hard for what they wanted to accomplish," Sterkowitz said.

"Although there are not a lot of experienced swimmers," Sterkowitz said, "I think they can work hard and push each other to reach their goals."

While completing a dive in midair, Freshman Emma Bice focuses on getting a high score. "We have a skeleton in a bag and before the team goes to dive, we all have to kiss its head," Bice said. Bice joined diving because she has been in tumbling for 11 years and it is similar to diving. "I picked diving over swimming because I can't swim fast," Bice said.







*Most Improved:*  
Mackenzie Milon,  
*Leadership:*  
Kaitlyn Phillips,  
*Most Valuable Player:*  
Kelsey Sajdera,  
*Sportsmanship:*  
Kaitlynn Sterkowitz  
(not pictured).

As a part of the girls' Swim Team, Freshman Natalia Ooms stands on the sidelines to provide support, encouragement and motivation. "It is very important to cheer for your teammates. It promotes them to do their best and succeed," Ooms said. Being a first-year swimmer, Ooms was not sure what to expect, but said overall the season went well.

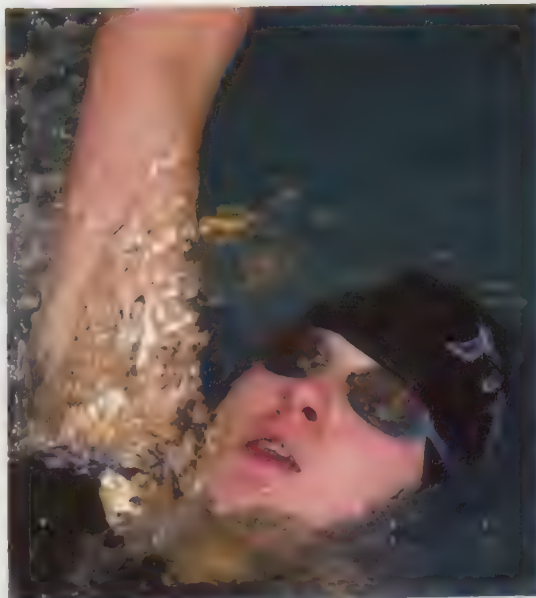


## VARSITY GIRLS' SWIMMING RECORD

L	151 — 35
	Chesterton
L	107 — 77
	Portage
L	94 — 91
	Rensselaer Central
L	148 — 37
	Lake Central
L	111 — 74
	Highland
W	170 — 105
	Hobart
L	98 — 88
	Griffith
L	104 — 79
	Kankakee Valley
L	145 — 141
	Valparaiso
L	118 — 68
	Munster
L	65 — 21
	Michigan City
L	102 — 81
	LaPorte
L	108 — 75
	Wheeler

Season Record  
and 12  
DAC Record  
and 6

Having just started her diving career, Freshman Kara Phillips performs a one and a half pike dive during a meet. As a first-year diver, she had to learn many new skills to be successful and accomplish her goals. "Since it is a small team, we are all very close and have a lot of fun while we are getting our job done," Phillips said.



As Freshman Rachel Baran swims the backstroke, she is trying to receive one of her best times. "My best time for 100 backstroke is 1:18," Baran said. Baran has been swimming since she was young. "Supporting your team is very important. When you hear your teammates cheering for you, it pushes you to try and get your best time," Baran said.



**Q:** What makes a good swimmer or diver?  
**A:** "Dedication and the determination to do their best all the time."  
-Coach Sara Stallings

## ASK THE COACH



# STICK THE landing

"The best part about being on the team is the bond we form. It's like a second family,"

Sophomore Sasha Morales said. Receiving a motivational speech, the gymnastics team stands together listening to the words of their coach. "She always tells us to face our fears and never worry about what the other gymnasts are doing," Morales said.



Dance elements, turns and leaps are all part of the floor routine by Junior Rebekah Rochefort, including her signature ending. "I don't really have any inspiration. I just go out there and do it," Junior Rebekah Rochefort said. Rochefort believes the hardest thing about the floor is tumbling. "I'm better at my dancing," Rochefort said.



Performing on the uneven bars during the gymnastics season, Junior Chandler Hill showcases her talent. "My teammates inspire me and keep me motivated," Hill said. "I get nervous and excited right before I do my events," Hill added.

"Falling and learning how to get back up is the most difficult thing to do," Freshman Marissa Taylor said. Taylor competes in the floor event during a meet. "When I walk out on the floor, people expect me to set the bar," Taylor said.



Talent, stamina and having a great amount of determination are all aspects required to be a member of any high school team. However, in the sport of gymnastics, those three words can make or break you. Gymnastics is a sport that includes four events all involving different types of skills and strengths. Constantly trying to improve your skills and scores to assist the overall team is a huge part of being a gymnast.

The 2010 Merrillville gymnastics team began their season with strong mental attitudes and numerous goals set to make the most of their season.

"Our goal for 2010 was to compete in the state meet as a team," Coach Diane Roberts said.

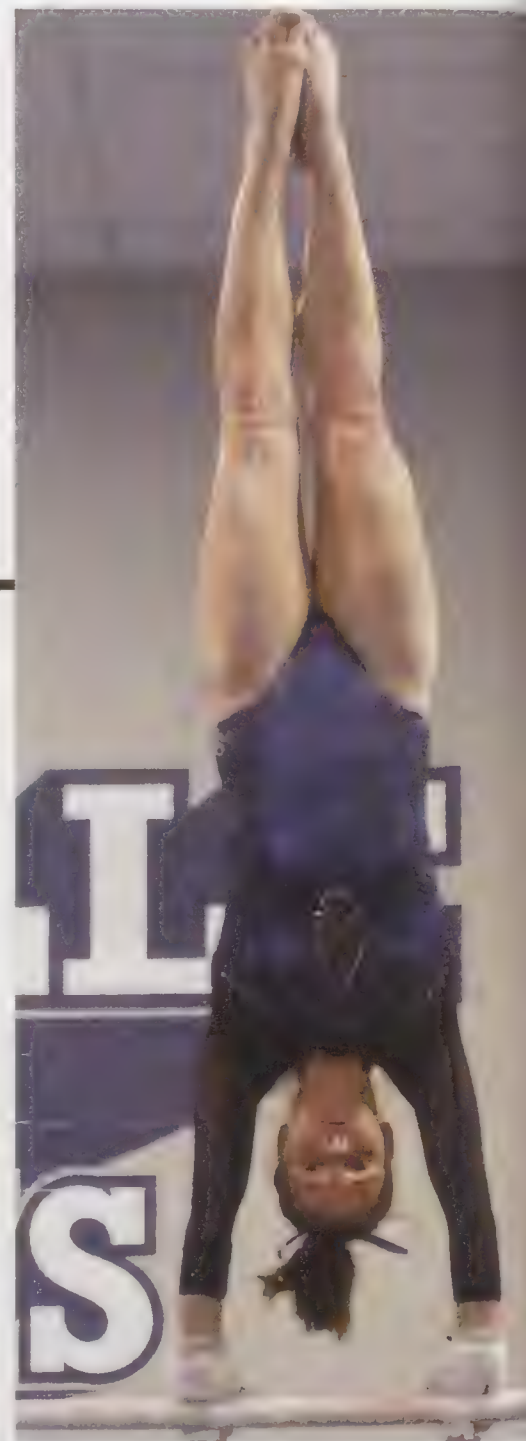
Having prepared and conditioned since the end of last years' state meet, the team was completely equipped to have an astounding season. The team, however, suffered two sudden injuries to their two placing seniors. These injuries occurred in the span of one week

and overwhelmed the team.

"Losing two veteran gymnasts, Diona Milenkovski and Lisa Pozniak, who were prepared to have the best season of their lives, to season-ending and career-ending injuries was the most devastating part of the season," Coach Roberts said.

Losing two of their gymnasts, whom the team depended on the most for scores and leadership, put the team in a position where they had to replace them with younger gymnasts. However, the team succeeded in winning the Pirate Pride Invitational for the third consecutive year.

"You cannot be completely pleased when your best gymnasts were injured and their dreams were shattered. They have been involved in gymnastics since they were very young, and it was a horrible feeling as a coach and mentor for this to have happened. The team pulled back together well, but the injuries were just too sudden and unexpected for us," Coach Roberts said.





# VARSIITY GYMNASTICS RECORD

W	105.4 — 101.6
	Michigan City
W	102.80 — 88.85
	Hobart
W	102.80 — 92.15
	Lowell
W	104.375 — 90.925
	Lake Central
L	106.425 — 105.5
	LaPorte
1st	106.325
	Pirate Pride Invite
W	103.975 — 99.9
	Portage
L	107.25 — 103.2
	Chesterton
W	103.1 — 102.25
	Crown Point
L	114.0 — 104.0
	Valparaiso
4th	102.85
	DAC
5th	103.075
	Sectionals

Most Valuable Player:  
Chandler Hill,  
Most Improved:  
Theresa Yugo,  
Best Mental Attitude:  
Lisa Pozniak,  
Leadership:  
Valerie Bly.

"Sticking with it is the hardest part of all, but my passion keeps me inspired," Senior Theresa Yugo said. Yugo has been practicing her skills for five years. The beam is one of the events that Yugo and her fellow gymnasts competes in.



Front row: Chandler Hill, Sasha Morales, Hannah Lane; Second row: Marissa Taylor, Lauren Lamb, Rebekah Rochefort, Lisa Pozniak, Amy Aponte, Valerie Bly; Back row: Diona Milenkovski, Coach Diane Roberts, Coach Nicholas Roberts, Manager Kelsey Washburn, Theresa Yugo.



Season Record  
and 3  
AC Record  
and 3

Q: What would be your dream team?  
A: "My dream team would be a group of gymnasts who eat, sleep and dream gymnastics. They would have the same passion and drive that I do every time they walk into the gym."  
-Coach Diane Roberts

ASK THE coach



# LOUD AND proud

A family that cheers with all their heart, the members of the cheerleading team stand tall. Cheering on the Pirates through any weather and pumping up the fans with their energy is a sure crowd pleaser.

Despite several team injuries, the members have been able to piece it all together. This bond that the team created helped them pull through their obstacles. Earlier in the basketball season, both Senior Lisa Pozniak and Junior Katelynn Usher suffered injuries and were consequently taken out of the routines.

"It was awful! I absolutely love cheerleading, and it was hard to sit out and watch the team completely change their routines to make up for my injury," Usher said.

With a total of nine seniors graduating this year, some of them wanted to leave the underclassmen with some words of advice.

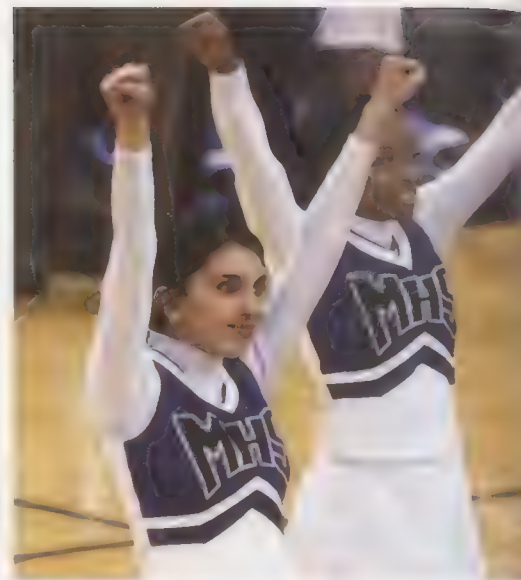
"Any team that takes the time to get to know one another will definitely work best together," Senior Alexander Gascy said.

The seniors admit that cheerleading has made a positive impact on their lives.

"It's helped me to be happy. As a cheerleader, you're expected to be happy and, at some point, it becomes a permanent part of your personality," Senior Catherine Gamino said.

With such a large number of graduates, it is sure to leave a dent in the team. However, the underclassmen are optimistic about the challenge. The cheerleaders are motivated to recruit new members that will be a positive contribution to the team and continue their legacy.

"We are motivators, not intimidators," Junior Dayna Young said. "Don't let cheerleading stereotypes get the best of you. We are the best."



Showing off her skills, Senior Melissa Kwiatkoski dances during the time out at the basketball game. "I like dancing at the basketball games because during football, we're kind of hidden, but for basketball, all eyes are on us," Kwiatkoski stated.



Shouting out to the team and eager to see what will happen, Senior Jessica Brooks gets hyped up from the action of the football game. "The desire the players have to win makes me want to cheer harder, to let them know that they can do it because I have their backs," Brooks said.

Leadership:  
Diva Lowe,  
Sportsmanship:  
Danniella Gregoline,  
Most Valuable Player:  
Katelynn Usher and  
Most Improved:  
Bianca Portis.



Getting ready for the game, Junior Raevyn Harper focuses on trying to help get the crowd involved. Although she has many memories, her favorite was after the regional game in Mishawaka. "It was great to see all the fans run from the bleachers on to the field when we won," Harper said.







With a smile on her face, Senior Catherine Gamino cheers at the boys' basketball game. "Cheering started off as something to do when I was little and turned out to be something that I loved," Gamino said.

At a football game, Senior Daria Arthur cheers for her team. "Knowing that the football players are still out on the field through the rain and snow is what keeps me going," Arthur said. "The fan base and the fact that the crowd is more involved are what I like best about cheering at the football games," Arthur added.

## ASK THE coach

Q: Do you think this year's seniors stepped up for the seniors you lost last year?

A: "This year's seniors have been cheering together for a very long time, so they know how to work together. They pulled together to make this year great."

-Coach Jeni Pedroza



Jumping in the air, Sophomore Jazmyn Thomas shows excitement for her team. "It is sometimes hard cheering for the football games because you try to watch the game, but you have to concentrate in order to cheer," Thomas said. "It can also be hard because people are yelling in your ear and people make faces at you to make you laugh," Thomas added.



Front row: Erin Bielak, Melissa Kwiatkowski, Catherine Gamino, Daria Arthur, Jessica Brooks, Raevyn Harper, Katelynn Usher; Back row: Jazmyn Thomas, Daria Baskin, Danniella Gregoline, Dayna Lowe, Alexander Gascy, Lisa Pozniak, Jasmin Harris, Dayna Young, Bianca Portis.



# YOU BETTER work

**W**ith seven seniors leading the team, the varsity Dance Team has pushed through trials and tribulations. The dance team has 14 members, with 1 being a sophomore.

"I like being the only sophomore on varsity. It shows that I am a good dancer," Sophomore Erricka Brown said.

Many people believe that dancing is not a real sport. The girls felt underestimated in what they were capable of doing and decided to make up a slogan that made them want to push harder. They decided on, "You Better Work!" Many of the girls will argue for the right of recognition.

"Dance takes a lot of hard work and dedication," Junior Inecia Ayers said.

"It's pretty athletic. It takes a lot of stamina," Senior Brittini Jackson said.

While some dancers argue mildly, other dancers take it a little more personally.

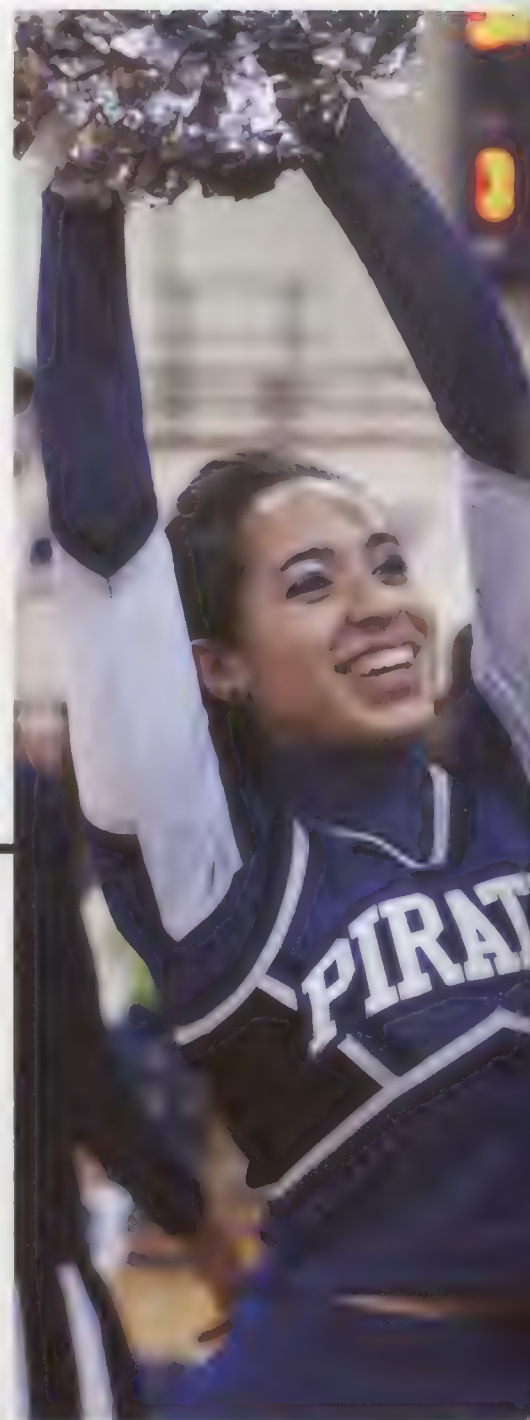
"People don't know how long we practice

and how hard we work," Senior captain Naudia Bradley said. "We have six-hour practices. We never cancel practice, not even in a blizzard," Bradley added.

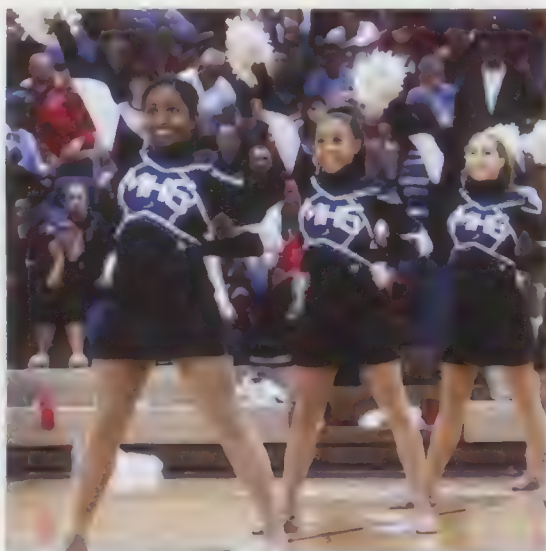
"We actually sweat. We strain our body and we have a 180-day season," Senior Unique Jeter said.

Advancing to state in all three routines, pom, jazz and hip-hop, the girls were looking forward to state being their best and last performance. The seven seniors knew that it would be the last time performing with that group of girls and it quickly brought tears to their eyes. Competing in the elite division, the girls finished their season taking seventh in pom, fifth in jazz and eighth in hip-hop. They enjoyed their last time dancing with each other.

"I'm going to miss the thrill and anxiety I get from performing," Senior captain Mariah Dennis said.



*In synchronization with each other, Senior Gabrielle Roberts executes a move with her teammates Junior Jasmine Suggs and Senior Brittini Jackson. Roberts believes that a team that gets along better makes it easier for the team to dance in unison.*



*As the pregame music is heard around the gym, Senior Brittini Jackson dances to the beat. Jackson pointed out that her favorite style of dance is pom. While attending the University of Missouri in the fall of 2010, Jackson has hopes of being a part of the dance team.*

*Most Dedicated:  
Brittini Jackson,  
Coach's 110 percent  
Award:  
Jaylah Robinson,  
Most Improved:  
Unique Jeter and  
Most Valuable Dancer:  
Naudia Bradley.*



*On the sideline at a football game, Senior captain Naudia Bradley dances to the school song. "Just being able to bond with my team while watching the game was my favorite about football season," Bradley said. "Most importantly, bonding with my team is what matters for us to dance as one," Bradley also added.*







Front row: Unique Jeter, Ashley Bland, Jasmine Suggs, Chelsea Campbell;  
Second row: Brittini Jackson, Jaylah Robinson, Naudia Bradley, Mariah Dennis,  
Gabrielle Roberts; Back row: Jenniye Adams, Jenee Porter, Victoria Smith,  
Erricka Brown, Inecia Ayers.



Putting on a performance face, Senior captain Mariah Dennis exhibits dance moves at a basketball game during halftime. The crowd helps by being at games, while the team performs in order to raise the energy level. "It's better to have a big crowd. It makes you want to go harder and it makes us more excited," Dennis added.



To complete the "Jump Off" routine, the girls come together for an ending pose. This was symbolic of the whole season. Bonding with different personalities and learning new things are ways to pinpoint what this season has been about. "It takes an individual drive to dance and it evolves into a team effort through the heart, body and soul," Senior Brittini Jackson said.

## ASK THE coach



Q: What does it take to make a great dancer?  
A: "A dancer needs to excel in all aspects and disciplines of dance."  
-Coach Melissa Sicking

On the football field waiting for the game to start, Junior Inecia Ayers hits a move during a game routine. A lot of former dancers joined Ayers to become a part of the team. "I love being a cheerleader and I'll miss dancing with the other girls from this season and all of our fun memories," Ayers said.



With her facial expressions, Senior Unique Jeter interacts with the crowd at a basketball game. Jeter tried to focus right before the performance to make sure she hit her technique in the routine. "Right before we take the floor, I just keep thinking, 'Please don't let me mess up,'" Jeter said.





# FIRST *finish*

Competing during a home meet, Senior runner Landau Lang runs the 100-meter dash ahead of a Lake Central opponent.

Lang was one of 14 team members of the boys' Track Team who qualified for the regional where he fell short of advancing to state.

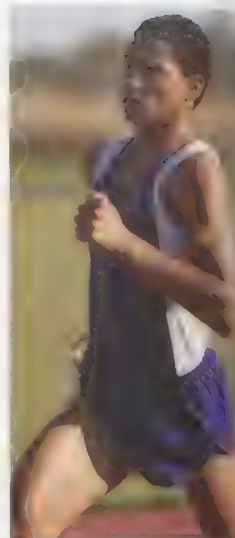


Approaching the take off position with eight steps of full force, Junior high jumper Darius Holland attacks the high jump at the Valparaiso meet.

"Conditioning has gotten easier, but practices are harder because we push one another," Holland said. Holland also said that teamwork is the team's best feature and he will miss the seniors' leadership.



A three-year Track Team member, Junior runner Jacob Caddick competes in the 800-meter run. At sectionals, his 2 minute, 1 second time was good enough to place third and advance him to regionals. Caddick was one of 14 members of the team to advance, including 4 X 800 relay team of Caddick and Juniors Dylan Harrison, Kyle Schroeder and Courtney Ellis.



This year, the boys' Track Team had to step up due to injuries. The team has strived to show that small is powerful and injuries will not stop them.

"The 4x1 relay team of Senior Landua Lang, Junior Rahim Conwell, Junior Payton Parker and Senior Kelly Wiggins have been a great standout. They are the DAC champions and number one in the region," Coach Jim Johnston said.

"Monte Brown is the number one pole vaulter, Louis Craig has been outstanding in the high hurdles, along with Sanchez Tate in the discus and Byron Ferrell breaking the school's record at 15.4 feet in the pole vault," Coach Johnston added.

Even though the team was smaller this season, it did not cause them to be less competitive.

"We have been low on numbers this

year, but I have realized that our team has been just as powerful overall," Coach Johnston said.

"We're not as much in depth, but we have always had great athletes," Coach Johnston added.

The seniors took the leadership role and showed their determination at each meet.

"Team bonding and listening will mean success to come for the underclassmen to follow on," Senior Jaylen Bentley said.

Freshman Austin Jamerson; Juniors Jacob Caddick, Kevin Caruana, Rahim Conwell, Cordney Ellis, Dylan Harrison, Payton Parker Joshua Perry, Kyle Schroeder; and Seniors Byron Ferrell, Landau Lang, Sanchez Tate Jr., Julian Taylor and Kelly Wiggins II continued to regionals.

Ferrell, Tate and Harrison advanced to the state finals.







*Most Improved:*  
Monté Brown,  
*Leadership:*  
Sanchez Tate Jr.,  
*Most Valuable Player:*  
Rahim Conwell and  
*Sportsmanship:*  
Byron Ferrell (Not  
Pictured).

*Airborne, Senior Monte' Brown pushes to clear the crossbar at 13 feet, 6 inches during the home meet against Lake Central. Brown said he was encouraged to join the track team by Senior Byron Ferrell. Brown played football for four years. Ferrell, who suffered a midseason injury, placed seventh in pole vault at state.*



*During a meet, Senior Sanchez Tate Jr. prepares to throw the shotput. Tate advanced out of sectionals to regionals, where he qualified for the state competition held in Bloomington, Indiana, June 5. At state, Tate placed 11th in discus.*



*Reaching backwards, Junior sprinter Payton Parker grabs the baton being passed by Junior sprinter Rahim Conwell. Parker has been involved in track since sixth grade and has no plans to stop anytime soon. Parker is looking forward to being a captain next year.*

## VARSIITY BOYS' TRACK RECORD

### Double Dual

W 78 — 54  
Crown Point  
L 74 — 58  
Valparaiso

W 68 — 64

### LaPorte

2nd West Lafayette Relays

### Double Dual

W 72 — 60

### Portage

L 78 — 54

### Chesterton

### Double Dual

W 91 — 31

### Michigan City

W 88 — 44

### Lake Central

3rd DAC Meet

2nd Sectionals

### Season Record

- 2

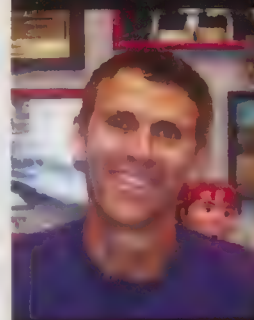
### DAC Record

- 2

*Q: Which athletes are most successful in track and field?*

*A: "First, they must be blessed with athletic ability, especially the runners. The skilled event athletes must be willing to work hard and possess the desire to become the best."*

*Coach Jim Johnston*



## ASK THE COACH



# ABOVE AND beyond

Leaping over the crossbar, Junior Ashley Jamerson clears her height. Since her freshman year, Jamerson has continued to improve. "Right now I'm jumping at five feet, but my goal for the end of the season is five feet two inches," Jamerson said.

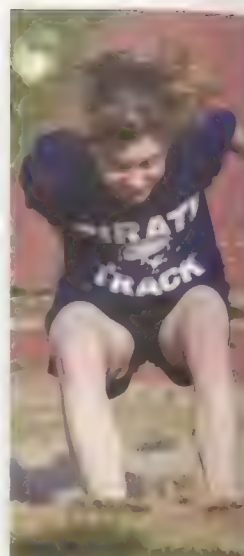


Using proper technique, Sophomore Nakel McClinton winds up to throw the shotput. "Since the beginning of this season alone, my discus distance has improved by 19 feet and my shot put distance has improved by 4 feet," McClinton said. At the sectional, McClinton placed first for both discus and shot put. At the regional, she placed second for shot put and first for discus. At the state meet, she was 10th in discus and 4th in shot put.



In order to reach the finish line of the 4 x 4 relay ahead of her competitors, Junior Taishe Abrams picks up speed. Abrams has been running for a total of six years and is a seasoned contributor to the girls' Track Team. "Before every race, I pray because I know that it will help me overcome any obstacles that may get in my way," Abrams said.

Bounding high and landing feet first into the sand pit, Junior Natalie Warren fights to reach her goal of 16 feet. Warren discovered long jump at the age of 14. "In eighth grade, the track team held a long jump contest that I participated in and won by a long shot. After that day, I knew it was meant to be," Warren said.



This year, the girls' Track Team worked to be skilled competitors while training new underclassmen. With only three senior team members, groundwork and familiarity was needed for the younger participants to be victorious. "Having most of the points come from upperclassmen last year, this year's points had to be attained by the younger, less experienced team members," Coach Jeff Eaton said.

Many members participate in various events, but more girls are always welcome to take part in any of the track events.

"I participate in the 100 and 200 meter dashes, the 4X1 and the long jump," Freshman Anjelica Peppers said.

The girls' DAC meet was held May 11, 2010, and they placed third out of eight teams. Lake Central High School took first and Valparaiso High School took second. Throughout the season, the girls felt that

Lake Central was their biggest competition. "Lake Central has a very large and superior team. They were definitely our biggest competitors this year," Senior Aubrey Cowser said.

At their sectionals May 18 at Lowell High School, Merrillville took second of 12 teams, with a score of 115, falling short of Crown Point High School with a score of 146.

Freshman Victoria Collins; Sophomores Alexandra Domoras, Jaleesa Holmes, Nakel McClinton, Jazmyn Thomas, Brianna Thompson, Shermika Winston; Juniors Taishe Abrams, Eva Foley, Ashley Jamerson, Breyana Russ, Brechey White, Robin Williamson; and Senior Kiara McLaurin advanced to the regional.

Of the 14 competitors who advanced to regionals, Domoras, Foley, McClinton, Peppers, Thomas, Thompson, White and Winston advanced to state.







Leadership:  
Eva Foley,  
Most Valuable Player:  
Nakel McClinton,  
Most Improved:  
Victoria Collins and  
Sportsmanship:  
Jaleesa Holmes.



As her team cheers on from the sidelines, Senior Kiara McLaurin finishes her portion of the relay. As one of the few seniors on the team, McLaurin does her best to set a good example for the underclassmen. "I show up to practice every day and on time. I run as hard as I can in every race and show the girls that it's not okay to give up when the going gets tough," McLaurin said.

With long, precise strides, Freshman Stephanie Samuels jumps over the hurdle. As a first-year hurdle runner, Samuels has advanced quickly, gained confidence and become a stronger member of the team, say her fellow hurdle runners. "When I started, I was pathetic, but with time and practice I've gotten a lot better," Samuels said.



## VARSIY GIRLS' TRACK RECORD

	Double Dual
L	79 — 52
	Crown Point
L	89 — 39
	Valparaiso
27th	Mansfield-
	Mehock Relays
W	79 — 53
	LaPorte Dual
2nd	West Lafayette Relays
	Double Dual
L	67 — 61
	Portage
L	71 — 61
	Chesterton
	Double Dual
L	101 — 30
	Lake Central
W	85 — 37
	Michigan City
3rd	DAC Meet
2nd	Sectionals

Season Record  
and 6  
DAC Record  
and 7

Q: How has this year's team differed from other teams?

A: "This group of girls has been one of the hardest working I have had in years. They have shown great improvement. I am proud of each and every one of them."

-Coach Jeff Eaton



ASK THE coach



# INSIDE THE diamond

After suffering a record of 3 - 23 last season, the boys' Baseball Team knew they needed to step things up.

A new coach and newly installed morning practices gave the team optimism and hope going into the season. They won the first three games, which equaled their total wins from the 2009 season.

"I think we started winning because of the new practices. We woke up at five in the morning everyday in the winter to practice. The coaches always stress that we practice, practice, practice," Junior Darren Blaylock said.

Some players felt that the new guidance of Coach Mark Schellinger is what caused the sudden rise in the team's strength.

"Schellinger will come up to you and tell you what you're doing wrong. He tells you the right things to make you want to play

better," Senior Timothy Leicht remarked.

It was not only the will of Coach Schellinger that encouraged the team to improve, but also the will of the players.

"The best part of the game is when everyone is playing the game how it should be played for seven innings straight," Senior Zachary Forsell said.

The seniors on the team showed leadership to keep everybody performing at their best each game.

"I think Zachary Forsell shows the most leadership. He always brings a positive attitude and never a negative. He's able to lift everybody's spirits when they are down," Blaylock said.

Blaylock also said that the goal for this season was to win sectionals and advance as far as the team could.



Stretching his arms out, Senior catcher Tim Leicht (7) reaches to catch the fly ball. Leicht stressed the importance of game preparation. "I always go through the bullpen before each game," Leicht said. After the bullpen, which is practice time between the pitcher and the catcher, Leicht said he works on blocking and fielding.



Front row: Rodney Trigg II, Manager Frank Traina, Brandon Smith, Manager Melissa Kwiatkoski, Darren Blaylock, Manager Bradley Brayfield, Xavier Ponce; Second row: Kyle Strom, Colin Schafer, Alex Quijano, Michael McNeil, Nicholas Townes, Kenneth Wright; Back row: Coach David Byard, Nicholas Feliciano, Zachary Forsell, Timothy Leicht, Coach Mark Schellinger, Kevin Schroeder, Christopher Knight, Autry Phillips, Coach Jeff Trivette.



As the ball releases from his hand, Junior Kyle Strom (19) pitches to a Portage batter. Getting mentally ready by listening to music and relaxing was Strom's ritual to be prepared for game time. "The best part of the game is being on the field listening to the National Anthem before the game even starts," Strom said.





Up to bat, Junior centerfielder Kenneth Wright (4) focuses on the ball coming his way. Having MLB player BJ Upton of the Tampa Bay Rays as someone Wright looks up to, Wright noticed what it took to be a great player. "You have to hustle all the time. That's it," Wright added.



Sportsmanship: Colin Schafer, Most Valuable Player: Nicholas Feliciano, Leadership: Kevin Schroeder and Most Improved: Kyle Strom.



Down low, Senior first baseman Zachary Forsell (6) covers the base while waiting to catch the ball. Many characteristics went into making a baseball player game ready. "It takes consistency and hard work on and off the field," Forsell said. Before the game, "get in the mindset that losing is not an option," Forsell added.



Covering the base, Senior third baseman Kevin Schroeder (10) keeps his head in the game while watching out for the Lowell player. "When you play, you don't think of anything. You just do it," Schroeder said. Inspired by his grandfather, Schroeder has been playing since he was eight and plans to continue at Calumet College of St. Joseph.

## ASK THE coach



Q: What is the most important part of fielding in baseball?

A: "You have to pay attention, you have to be fast and you have to be aggressive."

-Coach Mark Schellinger

## VARSIY BASEBALL RECORD

W	8 — 2
	Hobart
W	12 — 3
	Boone Grove
W	10 — 4
	Hammond
L	6 — 2
	Munster
W	15 — 5
	Griffith
W	1 — 0
	Highland
L	9 — 6
	Lowell
L	11 — 0
	Lake Central
W	7 — 3
	Chesterton
W	10 — 3
	Kankakee Valley
L	5 — 4
	Valparaiso
L	5 — 4
	Michigan City
L	7 — 6
	Hammond Morton
L	11 — 1
	LaPorte
L	6 — 1
	Crown Point
L	17 — 15
	Portage
L	5 — 4
	Michigan City
L	7 — 2
	Lake Central
W	10 — 4
	Chesterton
L	14 — 3
	Valparaiso
L	5 — 2
	Hanover Central
L	2 — 1
	LaPorte
L	4 — 3
	Michigan City
L	14 — 0
	Crown Point
W	5 — 4
	Portage
L-W	5 — 2
	11 — 6
	West Lafayette
L	11 — 0
	Andean
L	4 — 0
	Sectionals

Season  
Record  
10 - 19  
OAC  
Record  
11 - 11



# OUTSIDE THE dugout

**W**ith a new head coach in the works, the Pirate Softball Team hoped to be on the road to success in the 2010 season. Suffering from a 3-24 record last year, Coach Jacob Stafford had several goals in mind when he became the new varsity coach.

"I wanted to bring a better, hard-working attitude to the team. I really like working with the athletes and it was my opportunity to put a stamp on a program," Coach Stafford said.

"Having a new head coach, I expected to have a lot of new workouts and coaching techniques," Senior Kaitlynn Sterkowitz said.

As winning was not in the team's favor last season, the players expected to have a winning mentality and stronger mechanics.

Junior Sydney Harold said she believed that "we all have so much potential as a team, but we just can't turn it into a win."

"The best thing about this year's team was the players and the atmosphere created," Junior Gabriela Ponce said.

"Even though we didn't come home with a win every night, doesn't mean we didn't enjoy ourselves. Our team unity kept us together and we never lost hope," Senior Natalie Riechers said.

The six seniors were all significant leaders and performed specific roles on the team.

"I am going to miss the seniors and I wish them the best of luck. They were a great group of girls to work with," Harold said.

*Waiting for the next pitch, Senior catcher Kaitlynn Sterkowitz (17) gets ready to catch the ball. "I think you have to find where your pitcher is pitching at and look at all your situations. The catcher and pitcher should have a good relationship to make sure the game goes smoothly," Sterkowitz said.*



*Sharing a handshake, Senior first baseman Natalie Riechers (21) and Senior second baseman Chelsea Oyervides (12) show how many outs they have. "Handshakes are not required. They're just something we do to bond and to congratulate each other on a good play," Riechers said.*



*Playing the position of shortstop, Junior Gabriela Ponce (15) is in her stance to field the ball. "After playing baseball all my life, I think the game goes by faster now, compared to baseball. I like the bonding time the team has listening to music and messing around," Ponce said.*



*From the outfield, Sophomore center fielder Megan Dicken (4) throws the ball. "I like playing out in the field because I think I'm better at it than being catcher. There is a lot of pressure playing the outfield. It's hard to judge the ball," Dicken said. She caught when she played in the youth league, but was switched to the outfield for the 2010 season.*





# ASK THE coach



Q: What is the best part about being the new head coach?

A: "I like being able to plan my own practices and create new defensive and offensive plays."

-Coach Jacob Stafford



Front row: Gabriela Ponce, Mercedes McClendon, Chelsea Oyervides, Jellicia Rivera, Jessica Martin, Latoi Merriweather; Back row: Manager Jordan Buhse, Lindsey Mitchell, Kaitlynn Sterkowitz, Megan Dicken, Coach Jacob Stafford, Sydney Harold, Hannah Webster, Natalie Riechers, Coach Carolina Procter.



Throwing the next pitch, Senior pitcher Lindsey Mitchell (19) tries to strike the batter out. "My favorite part about pitching is my 65 mph fast ball. The hardest thing is trying not to get frustrated with yourself if the game is not going well," Mitchell said.



Leadership: Natalie Riechers,  
Most Improved: Chelsea Oyervides,  
Most Valuable Player: Mercedes McClendon and  
Sportsmanship: Megan Dicken.

Season  
Record  
- 23  
DAC  
Record  
- 14

## Varsity Softball Record

L	9 — 0
	Lowell
L	8 — 0
	Griffith
L	2 — 0
	Crown Point
L	4 — 0
	Portage
	Penn Invitational
L	16 — 0
	Penn
L	6 — 4
	Laffayette Jeff
L	8 — 0
	Lake Central
L	10 — 0
	Chesterton
W	4 — 3
	Valparaiso
L	13 — 1
	Michigan City
L	10 — 0
	LaPorte
L	10 — 0
L	6 — 3
	Kankakee Valley (DH)
L	15 — 0
	Crown Point
L	14 — 9
	Portage
L	14 — 4
	Lake Central
L	6 — 3
	Chesterton
L	7 — 2
	Valparaiso
L	11 — 2
	Michigan City
L	4 — 0
	LaPorte
L	15 — 3
	Hobart
L	14 — 4
	Boone Grove
L	8 — 3
	Sectionals



# LOVE MEAN something

Front row: Eleni Kazonis, Sylvia Suggs, Lauren Carniello, Eleny Babilonia, Ashley Witkowski, Amber Medwetz, Lea Neligan, Nichole McFarland, Zahra Arifee; Second row: Kelsey Sajdera, Pauline Laorden, Christa Flores, Lauren Harding, Aliyah Williams, Brooke Wilson, Francesca Bricker, Morgan Lamb; Third row: Coach Kyle Prow, Candice Lambert, Lauren Lambert, Ana Adame, Allison Varela, MacKenzie Milon, Julie Hays, Allison Kish, Miranda Vega, Tiffany Lee, Coach Greg Branda.



Reaching to make a shot, No. 1 singles player Senior Pauline Laorden competes in a match against West Lafayette High School. "I expected the season to be a challenge. The team was young and did not have a lot of experience. However, we improved and it was a good season overall," Laorden said.



While preparing to hit a backhand, No. 3 singles player, Senior Julie Hays competes in her most memorable match against Hobart. "The hardest part of the season was having to rebuild the team from last year," Hays said. However, Hays thought that the season was better than last year and "was a very growing season."



After losing four seniors and two coaches, the girls' Tennis Team began their season rebuilding what they had lost the year before.

The team had to begin to adjust to two new coaches and very different coaching styles.

"I wanted to coach tennis because it is my favorite sport. Overall, my first year is going very well," Coach Kyle Prow said.

The team worked hard in the off-season, gaining essential skills and the opportunity to meet the coaches while preparing for the upcoming season.

"It was hard to adjust at first. I didn't know how they coached or what the season would be like. However, open gym hitting helped a lot and allowed us to get more comfortable with having new coaches," Junior Allison Varela said.

The coaches and team had high hopes for a successful season, but as the season continued, the team struggled with finding the ideal lineup needed to ensure a varsity win.

This proved difficult for the team, losing their first six matches until finally reaching a victory.

The season began to pick up for the team winning three straight matches. The girls, however, ended their overall season with a record of 4-10 and lost to Hobart in sectionals, 3-2.

However, the No. 1 doubles team of Senior Allison Kish and Junior Kelsey Sajdera advanced out of sectionals for the chance to compete individually.

"The team has exceeded my expectations," Coach Prow said.





Most Improved:  
Lauren Carniello,  
Sportsmanship:  
Allison Varela,  
Most Valuable Player:  
Allison Kish and  
Leadership:  
Julie Hays.



Talking at the fence with Coach Kyle Prow, No. 1 doubles players Senior Allison Kish and Junior Kelsey Sajdera listen to advice on how to win their match. Kish has been playing tennis for five years and thinks that this has been an interesting season. "This season had its ups and downs, but I feel that it was a great season. We became closer as a team. I am really going to miss them," Kish said.

## VARSITY GIRLS' TENNIS RECORD

L	5 — 0
	Highland
8th	Plymouth Tourney
L	3 — 2
	Lowell
L	3 — 2
	Hobart
L	5 — 0
	Crown Point
L	3 — 2
	West Lafayette
L	4 — 1
	Michigan City
W	5 — 0
	Hammond Morton
L	3 — 2
	LaPorte
6th	MHS Tourney
L	4 — 1
	Valparaiso
W	4 — 1
	Wheeler
W	3 — 2
	Portage
W	3 — 2
	Kankakee Valley
L	5 — 0
	Chesterton
L	5 — 0
	Lake Central
L	3 — 2
	Sectionals

Season Record  
and 11  
DAC Record  
and 6

Eyes fixed on the ball, Junior Eleny Babilonia returns a backhand to her Hobart opponent. Babilonia has been playing tennis for three years and always wore a hair tie around her wrist for good luck. "My favorite memory from this season was trying to hit the coaches with the ball," Babilonia said.



To try to earn a point, No. 2 singles player Sophomore Lauren Carniello returns a backhand during a match against Hobart High School. Carniello plans to continue playing through high school and "hopes to move up to No. 1 singles, where I would like to have a successful season."



Q: What makes a great tennis player?  
A: "Competitiveness, perseverance and the willingness to get better."  
- Coach Kyle Prow

ASK THE COACH



# BIRDIES AND pars



After hitting the ball, Junior Michael Gillis looks to see where his ball has landed. "The new coach tries to help us find ourselves and be mentally positive. When he sees little stuff, he points it out to us," Gillis said. Gillis believes the hardest part about golf is the mental part. "If you start good, it can trigger off a good round," Gillis said.



Front row: Mackenzie Pearson, Michael Chabes, Arlen Sims, Jeremy Baldwin, Ian Fultz, Edwin Fitzsimmons; Back row: Steven Crague, Jacob Gibson, Malik Muhammad, Coach Sean Hudson, Francis Martisovic, Timothy Shelton Jr., Michael Gillis.

While chipping the ball, Senior Francis Martisovic tries to keep a tight grip on his sandwedge. Martisovic said he believes that next year's team will be able to step it up and will make up for the lost seniors. "All they have to do is stay positive and have consistency. Anyone can hit a good shot," Martisovic said. Martisovic advanced to the regionals at Beechwood in LaPorte, where he shot a 91. At the Kankakee Valley Invite in early May, the senior was the Invite Champion.

To get into the swing of things, the boys' Golf Team went through some changes, a new coach, new rules and new attitudes. Athletic trainer Mr. Sean Hudson took over as the golf coach.

"After taking over as the coach I wanted to build on last year's success," Coach Hudson said.

Coach Hudson was not left alone to handle the team. He had some experienced members, such as Seniors Francis Martisovic, Steven Crague, Juniors Malik Muhammad, Michael Gillis and Arlen Sims. Sophomore Jacob Gibson was the only added varsity golfer this season.

"It was good to have an experienced varsity line-up, not just to improve on last year's team, but to help the younger guys too," Coach Hudson said.

Practice was different at the start of season. When they began having practice

outside, each day was like a real match. They had to play the ball down and count every stroke.

With the new practice methods, the Pirate Golf Team got off to a slow start losing their first five matches. They soon bounced back with a fifth place finish out of 16 teams at the K.V. Invite. They then won two matches the following week.

"Starting the season off we didn't do as good as we planned but we found out if we stay confident we can be competitive with a lot of teams," Muhammad said.

After the team realized that confidence was important, they started to see the teams' scores go down as matches went on. With two seniors leaving and four returning players next season, the Pirates plan on having great success.

"Next year were going to state," Muhammad said.





# VARSITY BOYS' GOLF RECORD

L	174 — 183
	Lowell
L	174 — 193
	Portage
L	179 — 193
	Michigan City
L	172 — 185
	LaPorte
L	168 — 180
	Boone Grove
5th	16 K.V. Invite
W	177 — 184
	Bishop Noll
W	177 — 186
	Wheeler
L	157 — 175
	Chesterton
L	166 — 175
	Lake Central
3rd	9 Boone Grove Invite
L	153 — 183
	LaPorte
L	168 — 183
	Michigan City
L	152 — 198
	Chesterton
L	171 — 198
	Lake Central
L	162 — 176
	Portage
8th	12 Lake Central Invite
L	154 — 181
	Valparaiso
L	159 — 181
	Crown Point
L	149 — 177
	Valparaiso
L	163 — 177
	Crown Point
7th	DAC Tournament

Season Record  
 - 16  
 DAC Record  
 - 14

Leadership:  
 Malik Muhammad,  
 Sportsmanship:  
 Arlen Sims,  
 Most Improved:  
 Mackenzie Pearson and  
 (Not Pictured)  
 Most Valuable Player:  
 Francis Martisovic.

While reading the  
 green, Junior Malik  
 Muhammad keeps his  
 focus on the ball. "I've  
 been golfing since I was  
 five years old. It's always  
 been my passion,"  
 Muhammad said.  
 Hitting a good shot  
 can help a golfer gain  
 confidence. "Before  
 I hit the ball, the only  
 thing going through my  
 mind is hitting one of  
 the dimples on the ball,"  
 Muhammad added.

Playing Varsity-3 most  
 of the year, Junior Arlen  
 Sims putts the ball. "The  
 first thing I do when I  
 come to a match is turn  
 my ipod on and practice  
 putting until I get some  
 good shots," Sims said.  
 "I try to visualize each  
 shot before I hit the  
 ball," Sims added. Sims  
 thinks golf is harder  
 mentally, rather than  
 physically because  
 between shots, there is  
 time to think about the  
 next shot.

Q: What separates golf  
 from all other sports?  
 A: "I think golf is a game  
 that you can never be  
 perfect. One day you  
 can shoot a par and  
 the next day you could  
 shoot a 100."  
 -Coach Sean Hudson

ASK THE coach





### Varsity Football

Coach Zac Wells

Front row: Trainer Teannah Taylor, Johnnie Maffett, Derek Taylor Jr., Zerrick Brown, Gregory Brousseau, Eduardo DeLuna, Dominique Gray, Bruce Brown Jr., Payton Parker, Michael Reed, Darryl Peppers; Second row: Trainer Olshianna Doss, Darrius Holland, Aaron Dye, Jonathan Floyd, Eric DeLuna, Travis Norman, Michael Nickson, Marcus Howard, James Tucker Jr., James Stewart, Logan Hubbard, Elliott Parker, Manager Marian Portis; Third row: Robert Robinson, Denzel Pierce, Christian Matthews, William Isabell, Kourtney Berry, Anthony Luckett, Tyler Kepchar, Darien Gornick, Sr., James Joiner III, Dallas Wilson, Larry Cooper, Joseph Brockson, Manager Xochitl Logan; Fourth row: Manager Hannah Webster, Landau Lang, James Travis, Sanchez Tate Jr., Valanti Atsas, Elbryn Coker, Anthony Palm, Louis Craig, Ian Stacks, Brian Walker, Caleb Pirtle, Jamaal Jackson, Trainer Whitney Knisley; Fifth row: Trainer Morgan Orosz, Martin Flores, Joseph Cowser, Matthew Warren, Anthony D'Gang, Carlos Dickerson Jr., Cortez Sims, Rodney Mitchell Jr., Anthony Disco, Michael Dicken, Jacob Raspopovich, Cameron Mitchell, Jory Cunningham, Manager Alexis Connolly; Sixth row: Deardra Stewart, John Mosley, Matthew Neal, Lawrence Scroggins, Derrick Hutton Kinsey, Paul Carey, Zachary Raspopovich, Jovan Trenoski, Joseph Sepulveda, Lachapelle Bradley, Juaquin Muro, Colby Tramm, Byron Ferrell, Kelly Wiggins II; Back row: Coach Jeff Eaton, Coach Mark Reid Sr., Coach Joe Atria, Coach Derek Thompson, Coach Zach Sliwa, Coach Wells, Coach Jacob Stafford, Coach Dennis Hamilton, Coach Mark Schellinger, Trainer Sean Hudson, Coach Dan Dwyer, Trainer Sue Hayes.

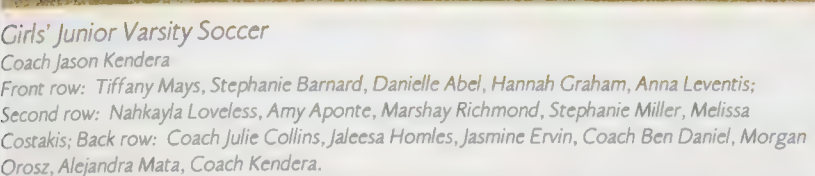


### Freshman Football

Coach Mark Reid Sr.

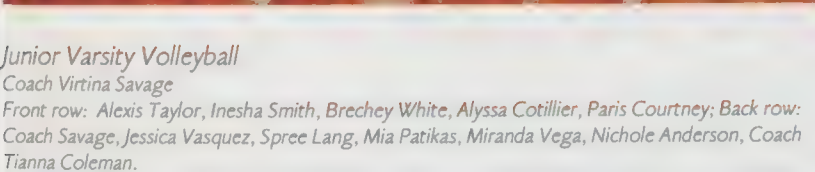
Front row: Tony Carter Jr., Dorian Lampton Funches, Alex Murga, Darius Dabadee, Errol White Jr., Michael Reed, Eric Davis, Julian Neal, Brian Jenkins, Daniel Sewell, Bryce Billingsley, Marcellus Joiner; Second row: Bruce Thomas, Calvin Cover Jr., Quinton Jamison, Jordan Tunley, Andre Walker, Christopher McClain, Eugene Dykes, Dennis Weber II, Delawn Kirk, Marquise Spencer, Karl Johnson, W. Smith; Third row: Tyler Schieve, Zoran Talley, Joseph Traña, Eric Gatewood, Valentino Corrales, Martell Murphy, Kevin Wilkerson, Jaylen Harris, John Burns IV, Khari Reed, Brandon Baldwin; Fourth row: Oyinmibi Deidgha, Anthony Harwood, Joshua Haynes, Eric Backmon II, Roman Salas, Adam Sherwinski, Carlos Jenkins Jr., Christian Brunski, Mack Love III, Aaron Dye, Christian Pearson, B.A.K. Daniel Jankuloski, Eric DeLuna, Joseph Cowser, Matthew Warren, Jonathon Feliciano, Matthew Sobczak, Adonis Smith, Joshua Bromberg, Trevon Williams, Dionne Washington, Jose Martinez.





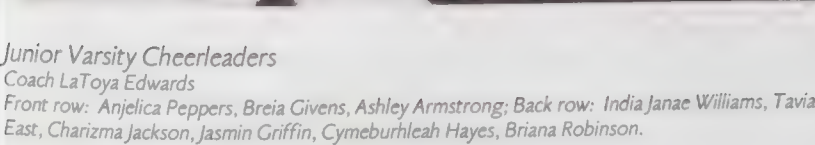
Coach Jason Kendera

Front row: Tiffany Mays, Stephanie Barnard, Danielle Abel, Hannah Graham, Anna Leventis;  
Second row: Nahkayla Loveless, Amy Aponte, Marshay Richmond, Stephanie Miller, Melissa  
Costakis; Back row: Coach Julie Collins, Jaleesa Holmes, Jasmine Ervin, Coach Ben Daniel, Morgan  
Orosz, Alejandra Mata, Coach Kendera.



Coach Virtina Savage

Front row: Alexis Taylor, Inesha Smith, Brechey White, Alyssa Cotillier, Paris Courtney; Back row: Coach Savage, Jessica Vasquez, Spree Lang, Mia Patikas, Miranda Vega, Nichole Anderson, Coach Tianna Coleman.



Coach LaToya Edwards

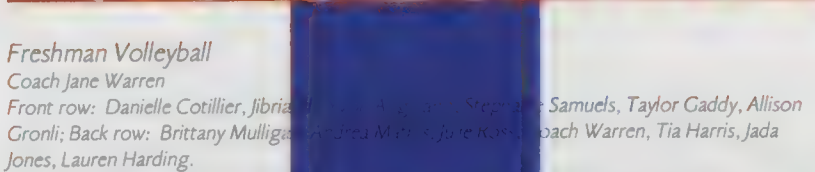
Front row: Anjelica Peppers, Breia Givens, Ashley Armstrong; Back row: India Janae Williams, Tavia East, Charizma Jackson, Jasmin Griffin, Cymeberhleah Hayes, Briana Robinson.



Coach Rick Hurey

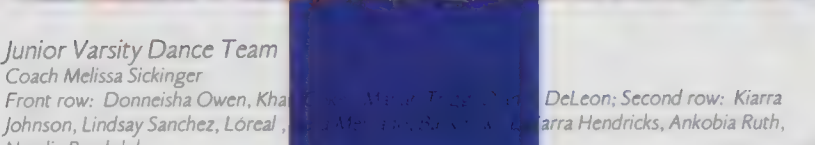
**Front row:** Jorge Gutierrez, Kanjin Brownlee, Alexander Stojanovski, Luis Alfonso Sanchez Emilio Hernandez, Jacob Pardus, Sean O'Connell, Jacob Garcia, Abraham Garcia, Jacob Styx, Philip Hays, Francisco Barrera, Gabriel Brindley, Alejandro Sanchez, Daniel Lagunas, Alejandro Sanchez.

**Back row:** Coach Hurey, Coach Brown, Daniel, Jordan Diaz, Nathaniel Jegeron, Austin Jamerson, Messay Crawford-Taylor, Kyle Jones, Coach Williams, Manager Brittney Castelli.



Coach Jane Warren

Front row: Danielle Cotillier, Jibria Williams, Ayaanah Stephens, Taylor Caddy, Allison Gronli; Back row: Brittany Mulligan, Andrea Martin, Jure Koss, Rachael Warren, Tia Harris, Jada Jones, Lauren Harding.



Coach Melissa Sickinger  
Front row: Donnich, C.

Front row: Doreenisha Owen, Nia S. Williams, and DeLeon; second row: Kiana Johnson, Lindsay Sanchez, Lóreal, and Alana; third row: Kiana Williams, Larra Hendricks, Ankobia Ruth, and Lóreal.





### Boys' Freshman Basketball

Coach Luke Starkey

Front row: Zoran Talley, Joseph Traina, Manager Bradley Brayfield, Jeremiah Thomas, Devin Westbrooks; Second row: Jerrell Peterson, Adeyinka Fashawe, Latrell Hudson, Kevin Wilkerson, Jamard Owens Jr., Lee Cooper; Back row: Coach Starkey, Breun Magee, Jelani Pruitt, Devin Taylor, Isaiah Wilson, Daniel Jankuloski, Coach Jim Vermillion.



### Girls' Freshman Basketball

Coach Rina Molina

Front row: Elizabeth Nieves, Davonna Witherspoon, Jasmine Guy Johnson, Anjelica Peppers, Taylor Gaddy; Second row: Taylor Gibson, Darian Patton, Summer Fields, Andrea Mathis, Marshay Richmond, Taylor Allen; Back row: Sheridan Parker, Aaliyah King, Coach Molina, Tia Harris, Amber Sturdivant.



### Boys' Junior Varsity Basketball

Coach David Herring

Front row: Brian Jenkins, Devion Williams, Frank Jefferson; Second row: Anthony Disco, Brandon Hall, Jacob Raspopovich, Albert Reed; Back row: Coach Herring, Tyree Johnson, John Mosley, Jared Knox, Coach Cliff Hughes.



### Girls' Junior Varsity Basketball

Coach Tom Spitzer

Front row: Brianna Thompson, Jennayi Burden, Dariyan Morris; Second row: Danielle Abel, Mercedes McClendon, Leeah Cooper, Rasheeda Robinson, LeKisha Patterson, Victoria Henders; Back row: Jaleesa Holmes, Mia Patikas, Coach Spitzer, Kacey Cole, Amanda Banashak.



### Junior Varsity Baseball

Coach John Kwiatkoski

Front row: Kevin Meacham, Rudolph Sanchez IV, Ian Stacks, Alexander Swierc, Travis Norman; Second row: James Medwet, Tyler Kepchar, John Burns IV, Aaron Dye, Anthony Griffin, Tyler Scheive, Dean Davis; Back row: Coach Kwiatkoski, Jose Carbajal, Matthew Warren, Jonathon Feliciano, Joseph Cowser, Nathaniel Gilham III, Coach Joe O'Connel.

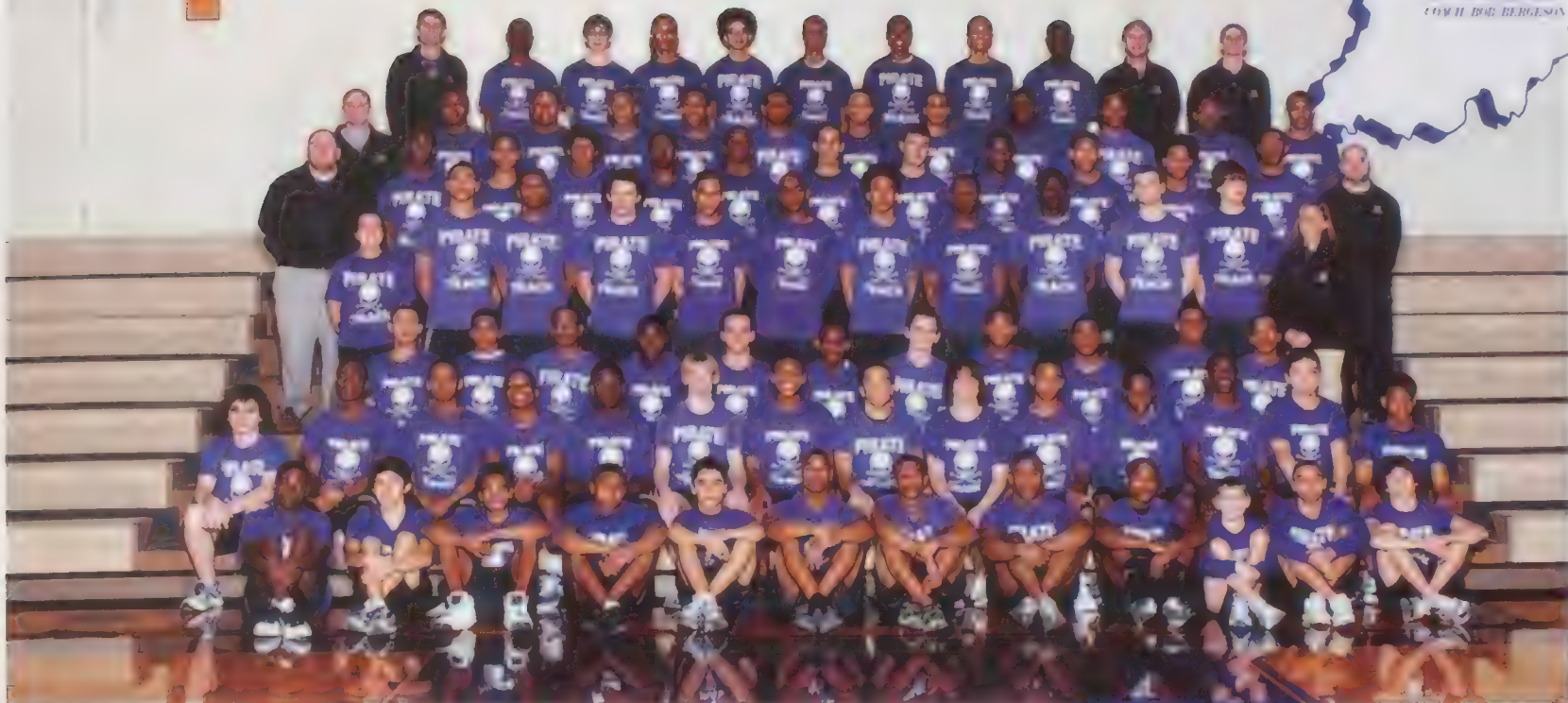


### Junior Varsity Softball

Coach Mark Reid Sr.

Front row: Samantha Hernandez, India Janae Williams, Inesha Smith, La'Sierra Smith; Second row: Jessica Vasquez, Stephanie Armstrong, Nichole Anderson, Erica Homeier, Sarah Rochefort, Laci Bistrican; Back row: Coach Mark Reid Jr., Julie Ross, Mia Patikas, Kacey Cole, Amanda Banashak, Lacey Richards, Coach Reid Sr.





### Boys' Varsity Track

Coach Jim Johnston

Front row: Deshay Vinson, Kenjiro Nangin, Cornell Tucker III, Carlos Taylor, Jorge Gutierrez, Payton Parker, Christian Echols, Darryl Peppers, Anthony Jefferson, Juan Rodriguez, Marcellus Joiner, John Costakis; Second row: Dylan Crane, Demetrius Morris, Andre Walker, Trent Turner, Michael Ramey Jr., Francis Dusik, Eugene Dykes, Logan Thompson, Brandon Culver, Jaylen Bentley; Third row: Clyde Byrd III, Thomas Anthony IV, James Posey, Rahim Conwell, David Jordan, Corey Johnson, Anthony Adams, Dallas Wilson, Khari Reed, Edward Jones, Tyler Dorsey; Fourth row: Manager Daniella Carbajal, Jacob Caddick, Cameron Mitchell, Darien Cornick, Landau Lang, William Edwards, Anthony Taylor, Sanchez Tate Jr., Kyle Schroeder, Kevin Caruana, Coach Molly Crawn; Fifth row: Coach Brian Past, Joshua Perry, Antawon Marshall Jr., Jordan Diaz, Corey Johnson, Anthony Adams, Dallas Wilson, Khari Reed, Darrius Holland, Elliot Parker, Monte Brown, Coach Jeff Eaton; Sixth row: Coach Jeff Fairbairn, Anthony Palm, Johnny McClendon III, Latrell Johnson, Anthony Adams, Dallas Wilson, Khari Reed, Jordan Reeves, Charles McGee, Kelly Wiggins II, Kenneth Comer, Louis Craig; Back row: Coach Johnston, Colby Tramble, Corey Johnson, Anthony Adams, Dallas Wilson, Khari Reed, Marshawn Riley, Derrick Hutton-Kinsey, Cameron Ellis, Julian Neal, Coach Ben Daniel, Coach Aaron Crawn.



### Girls' Varsity Track

Coach Jeff Eaton

Front row: Zacaria Bailey, Amy Aponte, Erin Segrest, Stephanie Barnard, TiaQue'na Smith, Ja'Vai Holcomb, Shantelai Gilliam, Brianna Thomas, Breyana Russ, Rachel Walton, Dora Martin-Ellison, Demetria Downing, Taylor Worrell, Kientaye Turnipseed, Stephanie Samuels, Manager Daniella Carbajal, Melissa Costakis, Brechey White, Jenniye Adams, Shermika Winston, Taishe Abrams, Victoria Collins, Natalie Warren, Megan Vinson, Shikeia Randolph, Ashley Phillips, Anjelica Peppers, Jazmyne Molly Crawn; Fourth row: Coach Jeff Fairbairn, Jucila Best, Chaunice Smith, Valerie Bly, Aubrey Cowser, Mofoluwaso Ibikunle-Salami, Rosalyn Doss, Leana Cramer, Savannah Smith, Briana Boyd, Rashonda Brooks, Gina Lee, Coach Eaton; Fifth row: Coach Brian Past, Spree Lang, Angelique Jernigan, Angela Hopkins, Maryam Adisa, Marshay Riddick, Jazmyne Thomas, Anjelica Peppers, Jazmyne Williamson, Ericiona Jackson, Morgan Walton, Osha Brownlee, Coach Aaron Crawn; Back row: Coach Jim Johnston, Aalinah Castleberry, Jazmyne Thomas, Anjelica Peppers, Jazmyne Fooley, Kayla Wiggins, Kiara McLaurin, Lydia Hawkins, Nakel McClinton, Jasmine Ervin, Sheridan Parker, Coach Ben Daniel.




*Pauline Laorden photo*



*Senior Mariah Dennis and Junior Michael Gillis*





# RELIVE THE moment

Student Government, National Honor Society, FCC, Chess, FEA, Academic Decathlon, Quiz Bowl, Super Bowl, STAND, Special Olympics, MPAC, Athletic Trainers, National Honor Society, FCCLA, Key Club, Bowling, Academic Decathlon, Quiz Bowl, Super Bowl, Spell Bowl, PNN, Special Olympics, MPAC, Athletic Trainers, Student Government, FCCLA, Key Club, Bowling, SADD, Chess, FEA, Academic Decathlon, Quiz Bowl, Spell Bowl, PNN, Aktion Club, STAND, Athletic Trainers, Student Government, National Honor Society, SADD, Chess, FEA, Academic Decathlon, Quiz Bowl.

Merrillville students have big dreams and, sometimes, those dreams take us out of the classroom and into an environment of a different kind.

In order to fully grasp the persons we truly are, we are constantly surrounding ourselves with all sorts of people in all sorts of situations. These opportunities cannot be taken for granted.

The many organizations that Merrillville High School offers give each student the freedom to undertake new adventures. Each event presents a new occasion to grow.

“Every moment is an experience.” —Jake Roberts.

One day, we will look back at the pages of this book, and it will revive the feelings and refresh the memories of what we did and the history we made.



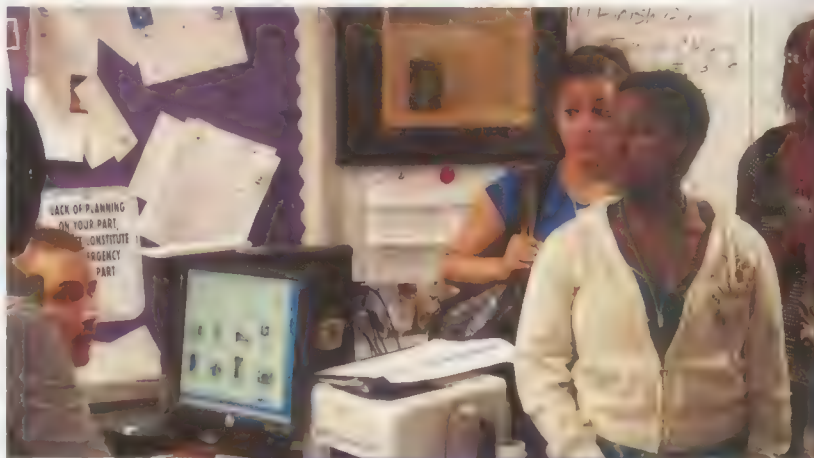
# THROUGH HELPING hands

Its mission is to create better leaders, mold well-rounded students and emphasize the importance of integrity. Members of Student Government, under the direction of Mr. Michael Knocke, show how having compassionate ideas for people are put into action.

"I really enjoy working with the students, and at times, it could be hectic, but it is definitely worth it in the end," Mr. Knocke said.

"One of my goals is to get more students involved in Student Government as we try to tackle more projects for our school and community," Mr. Knocke added.

Members of Student Government jumped into the spirit of giving as they took part in multiple holiday events throughout the year, including the annual Thanksgiving Food Drive and Christmas Wish List, and its newest project, the Go-Green Campaign.



A seasoned member of Student Government, Junior Hirut Crawford-Taylor attends the Junior Class meeting along with Juniors Te'Keia Williams, Liara Russell and Angela Hopkins. Crawford-Taylor has been an active member for two years. "Being a member of Student Government is a great way for me to take an active role in the school community. I would recommend it to all students," Crawford-Taylor said.



## Student Government

Mr. Michael Knocke, Sponsor

Front row: Cha'ya Eddie, Devon Burton, Keiko Cooley, Brionna Walker, Lakeshia Miles; Second row: Machele Jackson, Allison Gronli, Treasura Sowell, Osha Brownlee, Sarah Martin, Lea Neligan, Kara Walker; Third row: Rebekkah Kimani, Latoya Moore, Scott Gedda, Amber Scollon, Daph Harris, Mofoluwaso Ibikunle-Salami, Rosalind Pirtle; Fourth row: Jamie Roberts, Mansour Arifee, Najeb Arifee, Angela Hopkins, Ken Davis, Jeanette Burbage, Mr. Knocke; Back row: Philip Hays, Maurice Gillespie, Juan Rivera, James Wright, Daniel Gronli, Jaylen Bentley.



Student Government is a club that is very near and dear to Senior Julie Hays' heart. "Although it is only my second year of duty, this club quickly became one of my favorites," Hays said. Hays believes that being a member of this club has helped her to develop into the person she is today. "Now I'm more of an outgoing and goal-oriented person. It has helped me to go after the things that I want instead of just thinking about it," Hays said.



## Student Government Officers

Mr. Michael Knocke, Sponsor

Front row: Cha'ya Eddie, Keiko Cooley, Lakeshia Miles; Second row: Devon Burton, Brionna Walker; Back row: Daniel Gronli.



Wrapping and packing the gifts were the jobs of Junior Jamie Roberts. The angel tree is an annual activity organized by Student Government members in which the club collects gifts for the needy children that live in the area. "This activity in particular makes me feel especially helpful. All children deserve to have a happy Christmas, and I hope that by doing this, we put a smile on all of those kids' little faces," Roberts said.





#### National Honor Society

Mrs. Patrice Weil, Sponsor

Front row: Nicole Varela, Kathleen Baran, Caitlyn Hill, Sarah Martin, Amber Medwetz, Melina Rivera; Second row: Pauline Laorden, Ashley Bland, Cha'ya Eddie, Rachel Mendez, Sabrina Smith-Griggs, Aubrey Cowser, Alexis Connolly; Third row: Paige Wilson, Andrena Dicks, Dylan Toneff, Allison Kish, Kimberly Coates, Najeb Arifee; Back row: Benjamin Kepchar, Ajay Patel, Zachary Swierc, Juan Rivera, Michael Enghofer, Steven Guzek, Mrs. Weil.



Walking alongside members of NHS, Senior Pauline Laorden flexes her arms. Laorden said she had achieved the highest accomplishment when she was inducted into NHS. "I was honored to be recognized for my leadership abilities and for excelling academically," Laorden said. In addition to the annual Walk-A-Thon, members were required to accumulate a minimum of 20 service hours.



As he stands and speaks at the induction ceremony, Senior Najeb Arifee begins to reflect on his senior year as a whole. "Being a member of this exclusive club has made me a stronger leader. Before, I would question every move I made, but now I am sure of every decision I make. Even if it turns out to be a mistake, at least I was confident enough to do it," Arifee said.



After the induction ceremony is complete, Seniors Sarah Martin and Aubrey Cowser help serve the refreshments provided by the school. A majority of the seniors give the same advice to the new members of NHS. "Always remain focused, keep your grades up and do not slack on your service hours. You were inducted for a reason, so do not let yourself down," Cowser said.

## ONE STEP ahead

Throughout their years of school, dedication toward their education has been an enthusiastic battle of self-reward. Maintaining no lower than a 3.5 grade point average stays above all expectations they have for themselves, as working hard excels through as talent. For these students, it is not strictly about grades. National Honor Society is based on scholarship, leadership, community service and character.

The National Honor Society nominates its candidates and celebrates their achievements during its induction ceremony.

"My best advice to the incoming members is that NHS is a privilege, not a right, so embrace what the group and Mrs. Weil are trying to get accomplished, and you will feel like you made a difference. Most of all, have fun and make the best of this great opportunity," Senior Michael Enghofer said.

Members have taken part in the Walk-A-Thon, raising more than \$1400 for special needs students. Each member is required to do individual service projects.

"NHS definitely benefits its students by providing them with the opportunities to help their community as well as serve as a leadership role for the school's students. I really believe that each student grows from their experiences through NHS," Enghofer said.



As the induction ceremony comes to a close, Seniors Sabrina Smith-Griggs and Caitlyn Hill serve drinks. "Due to the additional service hours we had to complete, I gained more of a sense of community. It was a way to help me reach out and improve society," Hill said.

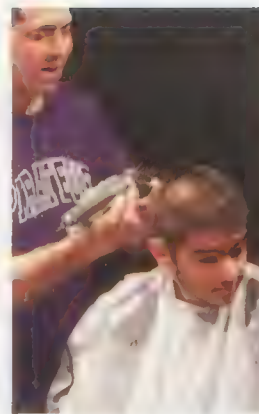




#### *Future Educators of America*

*Mr. James Stamper, Sponsor*

*Front row: Amber Medwetz, Lakeshia Miles, Jessica Flores, Te'Keia Williams; Back row: Jillian Larson, Allison Kish, Christa Flores.*



*FEA Sponsor Mr. James Stamper and Senior Najeb Ariffee*



*Seniors Jillian Larson and Shannon Wood*



*Seniors Jillian Larson, Shannon Wood, Julie Hays, Najeb Ariffee and Mynor Gonzalez*

## BEYOND THE books



#### *Girls' Bowling*

*Dave Larson and Paula Larson, Coaches*

*Front row: Brenda Pidgeon, Mikaela Cristofaro, Dajah Harris, Jillian Larson; Back row: Erin Weiss, Elizabeth Weiss, Coach Dave Larson, Kimberly Coates, Carlysle Larson.*



#### *Boys' Bowling*

*Chris Ward and Skip Schafer, Coaches*

*Front row: Joseph Witkowski, Jamal Thomas, Cody Parkhurst, Tyler Shockey, Tyler Harris, Scott Gedda; Back row: Coach Ward, Sean Schafer, Skylar Rothgeb, Zachary DeRolf, Nicholas Schuffert, Coach Schafer.*





Seniors Kelly Wiggins and Sarah Mason work with Freshman Randall Bultema Jr.



Junior Kelsey Sajdera



Senior Megan McGill



#### Freshman Mentors

Mrs. Christine Kibler-Wheeler, Sponsor

Front row: Kelsey Sajdera, Cha'ya Eddie, Kourtney Givens, Juan Rivera, André Ross, James Wright; Second row: Taishe Abrams, Hirut Crawford-Taylor, Blair McDaniel, Jessica Brooks, Naudia Bradley, Alexis Protho, Dawneasha Taylor, Brittini Jackson, Melina Rivera, Rebekkah Kimani, Kymeisha Stokes; Third row: Jasmine Wade, Courtney Pitts, Kaitlyn Sweeney, Tia Rucker, Angelica Dix, Daniel Armstrong, Alyssa Shirk, Megan McGill, Augusta Carneygee, Brechey White, Raequila Starks, Priscilla Stewart; Fourth row: Victor Nzeata, LaVontecia Gist, Natalie Riechers, Kiara Stephens-Brown, Robin Williamson, Caitlynn Anderson, Hannah Webster, Reginald Robinson Jr., Brandon Shea, Cameron Williamson, Mofoluwaso Ibikunle-Salami; Fifth row: Jamaal Jackson, Sydney Harold, Sarah Mason, Najeb Arifee, Matthew McLindon, Anthony Watson Jr., Brittanie Sturdivant, Brianna Sheppard, Alejandro Serrano, LaTasha Lee, Dallas Wilson, Derrick Hutton-Kinsey.



#### Quill and Scroll

Mrs. Teresa Procter, Adviser

Front row: Naudia Bradley, Raevyn Harper, Catherine Gamino, Rachel Mendez, Caitlyn Hill; Second row: Alyson Austin, Meredith Dobes, Natalie Riechers, Jillian Larson; Third row: Allison Kish, Julia Dicken, Kelsey Washburn; Back row: Michael Gillis, Ku'Juan Byrd, James Wright.



#### Newspaper

Mrs. Teresa Procter, Adviser

Front row: Raevyn Harper, Rachel Walton, Caitlyn Hill, Meredith Dobes; Second row: Patricia Zimmerman, Kaitlyn Cygan, Korey Loudermilk; Third row: Jillian Larson, Allison Kish, Julia Dicken, Chaloni Walker; Back row: Brandon Neal, Michael Dicken, James Wright.





Painting the face of a Key Club Carnival participant, Junior Serena Ornelas participates in the Key Club Carnival. "It was fun playing with the little kids and drawing on their faces," Ornelas said.



#### Key Club

Mrs. Carrie Bedwell, Sponsor

Front row: Lauren Kiser, Sarah Martin, Treasura Sowell, Lakeshia Miles, Mofoluwaso Ibikunle-Salami; Second row: Erica Homeier, Kara Walker, Jeanette Burbage; Back row: Candice Lambert, Lauren Lambert, Julie Ross, Ken Davis.

"It felt awesome to finally win," Senior Matthew McLindon said. This was the fourth time the duo of Matthew McLindon and Merrillville alumni Andrew Grzybowski participated in the Chili Cook-off. As the winners, Grzybowski and McLindon received \$100. McLindon said, "We didn't do it for the money. We did it to have fun."



To entertain the children, Senior Najeb Arifee puts on a magic show at the Key Club Carnival. "I did it because it was for a good cause and I had fun," Arifee said. Arifee showed the children a series of tricks. "I even had some kids who wanted to learn more and never left," Arifee added.



"It was fun setting up. Our theme this year was Winter Olympics," Sophomore Lauren Kiser said. This was Kiser's second time participating in the Chili Cook-off. Kiser enjoyed helping because all the money raised went to the Lupus Foundation.

## LET'S HAVE fun

Community service and volunteering to help various organizations are just some of the many activities that keep Key Club members busy throughout every school year.

The biggest event that they host is the Chili Cook-off, in which contestants choose a theme and cook chili in the hopes of winning the competition. People can try every competitor's chili for \$5, and all the earnings go to the Lupus Foundation for people who suffer from Lupus.

This year, the overall theme for the competition was based on the 2010 Winter Olympics, but each of the 16 groups who competed had a different theme and set up decorations around their displays to attract the people to try their chili.

"I first tried it because Andrew Grzybowski and I loved chili, plus it was for a good cause," Senior Matthew McLindon said.

McLindon has participated in the chili cook-off for the last four years.

"It was a pretty large turnout even though the girl's basketball state game was the same day. This was our best chili yet and we won first place," McLindon added.



# LEND A hand

The members of Family, Consumer and Career Leaders of America develop leadership skills through volunteer work and activities held at the high school. Sponsored by Ms. Carol Von Behren, the club is responsible for holding two blood drives each year, as well as the Freshman-Sophomore Winter Formal and the Inclusion Dance.

FCCLA members work with nurses from the Heartland Blood Center for the blood drives.

"This year over 100 students donated blood and there would have been more if it weren't for some students having low iron," Senior Lakeshia Miles said.

FCCLA sponsors the Inclusion Dance, which is a dance for special needs students from different local schools in the area. More than 100 students attended the dance and had their pictures taken by Giolas.

The next dance they sponsored was the Freshman-Sophomore Winter Formal. This year's Winter Formal was the seventh annual, and about 160 students attended.

Every year, FCCLA bakes bread to give to senior citizens at the Senior Citizen Center and they also make appreciation gift bags for the staff.

Also, after the devastating earthquake struck Haiti, FCCLA decided to step up and raise money for its victims. They had a bake sale and raised a total of \$200 and all the profit went to Haiti relief.

FCCLA members believe in giving back to the community and helping others, whether at school or in another country.

Setting up for the Freshman-Sophomore Winter Formal, Senior Cha'ya Eddie and Junior Salina Flores spend long hours decorating the cafeteria. "I enjoyed working with others, even though I didn't know anybody," Flores said.



After giving blood in the FCCLA blood drive, Senior Madison Cofield and Junior Rachel Walton rest and enjoy a snack so that they don't feel lightheaded. "I like needles and getting out of class," Cofield said. Cofield has donated blood eight times.



"I felt really good, like I did a good deed," Senior Jasmine Cummings said. As a first-time donor, Cummings said she was nervous. "I want to do this again in the future, maybe with Red Cross," Cummings added.



"Decorating for the dance was enjoyable, but it was very stressful," Senior Jillian Larson said. The crew began decorating Friday night and did not finish until the following day.



Family, Consumer and Career Leaders of America

Ms. Carol Von Behren, Sponsor

Front row: Sarah Dora, Sarah Martin, Amber Medwetz, India Taylor; Second row: Lakeshia Miles, Natalie Warren, Sherese Hopson, Kenshell Whisby, Aubrey Cowser; Third row: Ms. Von Behren, Paige Wilson, Rashonda Brooks, Jillian Larson; Back row: Cha'ya Eddie, Alexis Connolly, James Medwetz, Carlyle Larson, Daniel Armstrong.

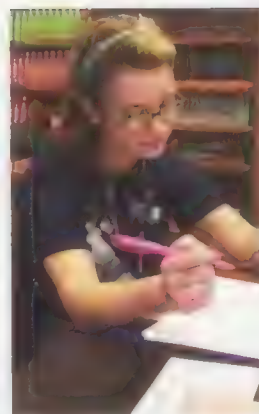




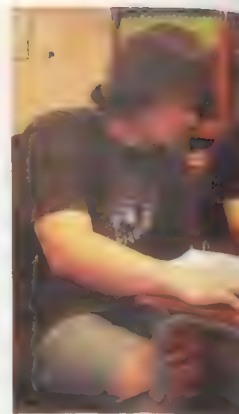
### Academic Decathlon

Mr. Jason Sonnenberg and Mrs. Rachel Sonnenberg, Coaches

Front row: Mrs. Sonnenberg, Sarah Dora, Devon Burton, Mr. Sonnenberg; Second row: Jacob Swierc, Mansoor Arifee, Ryan Malone, Darryl Miller; Back row: Najeb Arifee, Joseph Witkowski, Zachary Swierc, Ajay Patel, Sean Gibson.



Junior Sarah Dora



Sophomore Sean Gibson



Freshmen Jacob Swierc and Joseph Witkowski

# ACADEMICS IN Action



### Spell Bowl

Mrs. Evelyn Steiner, Coach

Front row: Mrs. Steiner, Caitlyn Hill, Sarah Dora, Blair McDaniel; Second row: Jacob Swierc, Mansoor Arifee, Alexander Swierc; Back row: Najeb Arifee, Joseph Witkowski, Zachary Swierc.



Freshman Joseph Witkowski



Sophomore Mansoor Arifee



Junior Sarah Dora





Freshmen Joseph Witkowski and Alexander Swierc



Senior Sabrina Smith-Griggs



Sophomore Sean Gibson



#### Quiz Bowl

Mr. Jason Sonnenberg, Coach

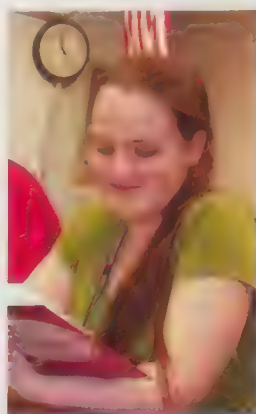
Front row: Sabrina Smith-Griggs, Sarah Dora, Sarah Martin; Second row: Mr. Sonnenberg, Jacob Swierc, Mansoor Arifee, Alexander Swierc; Back row: Najeb Arifee, Joseph Witkowski, Ajay Patel, Zachary Swierc, Sean Gibson.



Freshmen Emma Bice and Dennis Weber



Freshman Jacob Swierc



Freshman Allison Gronli



#### Super Bowl

Mrs. Evelyn Steiner and Mr. Rob Bedwell, Coaches

Front row: Mrs. Steiner, Sabrina Smith-Griggs, Allison Gronli, Sarah Martin; Second row: Jacob Swierc, Mansoor Arifee, Sarah Dora, Emma Bice, Dennis Weber; Back row: Najeb Arifee, Joseph Witkowski, Ajay Patel, Alexander Swierc, Zachary Swierc.



# BEHIND THE scenes

Pirate News Network has been known for its high technology and creativity. This year, PNN was outfitted with new high-tech equipment and the studio was moved to the Freshman Wing.

"We are very fortunate and lucky to be blessed with all of what we have," Advisor Mr. Mark Ciesielski said.

Along with the new studio, PNN once again went to state with Senior Pauline Laorden taking first place as Live News Anchor.

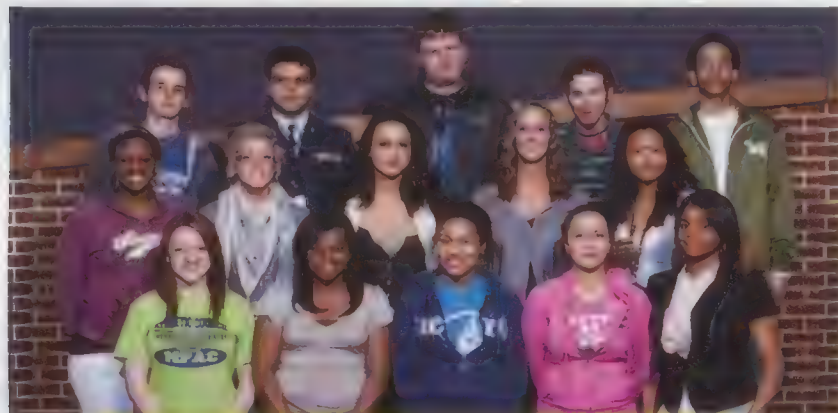
"I was proud to represent MHS, but it was challenging because I was doing it solo. Ski made me look over scripts, and I had to read from the teleprompter in front of my class, which put pressure on me," Laorden said.

Also, Sophomores Adam Serwacki and Tyler Schilling went to state, placing third in Spot Production.

"Placing at state was really exciting since it was my first year," Schilling said.

Being involved with PNN as sophomores, Schilling and Serwacki had to work to make a good first impression.

"We were glad of our accomplishments and our efforts because we overcame a lot," Serwacki said.



## PNN

Mr. Mark Ciesielski, Advisor

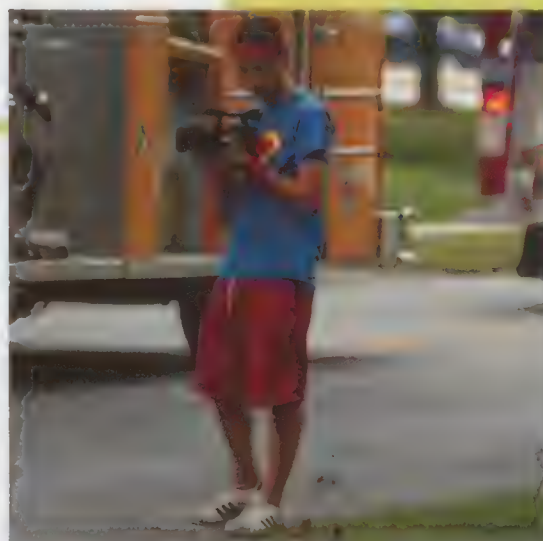
Front row: Melissa Kwiatkoski, Daria Arthur, Blair McDaniel, Eleni Kazonis, Dominique Marshall; Second row: Diva Lowe, Korey Loudermilk, Alexandra Domoras, Megan Dicken, Pauline Laorden; Back row: Adam Serwacki, Dylan Certa, Tyler Schilling, Matthew McLindon, Kelsie Boone.



Working on a project for an upcoming Friday Show, Senior Dylan Certa finds the hardest part about PNN is making deadlines. Beyond the deadlines, Certa's main goal in PNN is to entertain the students of Merrillville once a week. "I really wanted to join PNN because I am a funny guy, and I enjoy entertaining others," Certa said.



As Senior Eleni Kazonis adjusts her microphone, Senior Pauline Laorden practices for the Indiana Association of Student Broadcasters State Competition, held in Indianapolis. Laorden was a first-place state winner in the Live News Anchor Category. "I felt very happy and honored I got to represent Merrillville," Laorden said.

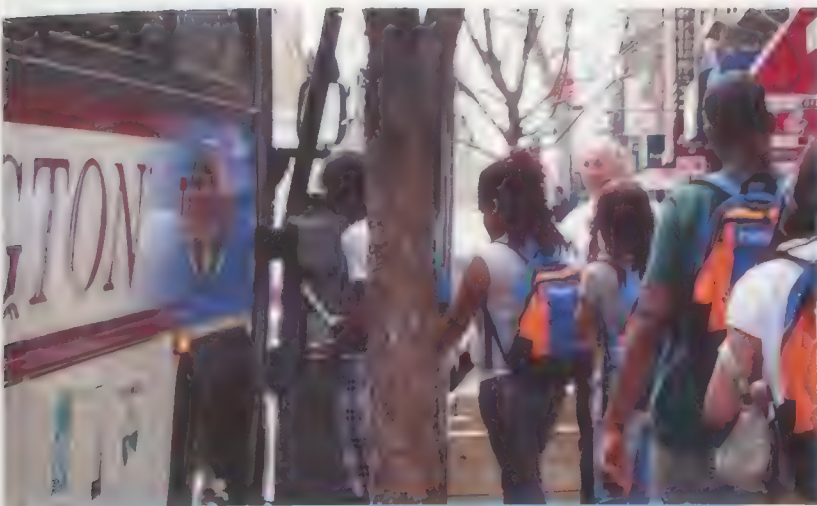


During Homecoming festivities, first-year PNN staffer Sophomore Adam Serwacki films the Homecoming parade. "I always have been interested in filming, and PNN helps me to gain experience," Serwacki said. This experience has helped Serwacki in pursuing a state title, earning a third-place award in Spot Production.



While standing in front of the green screen, Senior Dominique Marshall hosts the Morning Show. Marshall has been a member of PNN for four years. "My sister was in PNN, and she used to come home with her projects and I became very interested," Marshall said.

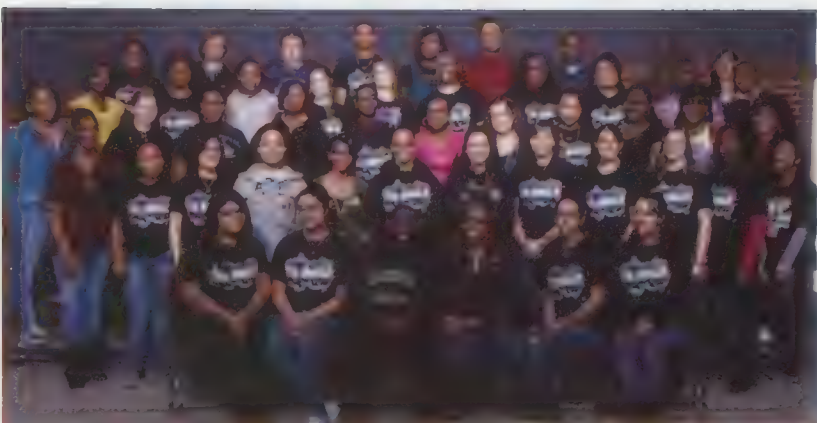




Leaving the Tenement Museum in New York, Junior Kelli Chavez and other members of the group go to Times Square to have lunch. Chavez has been a member of STAND for two years, and she was elected to be the Director of Cultural Affairs. "I had a lot of fun and learned a lot about immigration," Chavez said.



Standing in front of the Statue of Liberty, Leader of Alumni Relations Senior Melina Rivera and the rest of the STAND group pose for a picture. "It was a great experience, and I learned how diverse New York is," Rivera said. Having spent five days in New York, Rivera's favorite memory was the guy who gave away free hugs in Times Square.



**STAND**  
Mr. Danny Lackey, Sponsor  
Front row: Mellysa Reyes, Marleen Trado, Jamal Thomas, Kourtney Givens, Kelli Chavez, Melina Rivera; Second row: Te'Keia Williams, TiaQue'na Smith, Vanessa Harwood, Yakee Lomax, Kenyatta Richards, Alyssa Rose, Jericca Jasso, Chelsea Oyervides, Harlene Haro, Charity Scollon, Charishea Leeks, Kandice Nicholson; Third row: Loren O'Neal, Stephanie Miller, Candice Lambert, Maurisha Loyd, Christopher Hollingsworth, Arianna Cole, Amanda Nevitt, Tachina Smith, Jalisa Mosley, Lauren Lambert, Monique McMillian; Fourth row: Latoya Moore, LaVontecia Gist, Kendra Polk, Kari Kiel, Megan McGill, Reggie Robinson, Lacie Denwood, Arreal Terry, Jeremy Graham, Arlen Sims; Back row: Kakisha Daniel, Matt Tuohy, Philip Hays, Jordan Reaves, Anisha Thompson, Mr. Danny Lackey, William Laws, Jonathon Curry, Mrs. Alison Skertic.



Since the creation of STAND in 2001, Mr. Danny Lackey has taken pleasure in being the STAND advisor and "wants students to not be fearful of new experiences outside of Merrillville." Activities such as the trip to New York, the Suicide Awareness Walk, the Winter Wonder Fest and the MLK Brunch were among the most enjoyable activities that Mr. Lackey and the STAND members have completed.

# TOGETHER AS One

Every year, the club Socially Together and Naturally Diverse, also known as STAND, takes an annual trip. This year, they decided to visit New York. The main purpose was to learn about the immigration process in the United States.

"Family heritage and genealogy were two strong points that I learned from the tremendous experience," Senior Kourtney Givens said.

Mr. Danny Lackey said "the focus of the trip was to put the students in a different environment. For them not to be fearful, but take some kind of risks."

Mr. Lackey wanted the students to explore and to see differences in other places.

Attending the Brooklyn International School was also a new experience for everyone. The school consisted of 300 students from 40 different countries.

"The students from MHS and Brooklyn bonded very quickly and felt a great vibe off of each other," Mr. Lackey said.



While performing in a local church, Sophomore Jose Gonzalez and Senior Priscilla Stewart act out a skit for suicide awareness. Stewart has been an active member of STAND for four years. "I feel that STAND has had a great impact on others. It raises awareness on discrimination and opens others' eyes to not discriminate against people," Stewart said.





Senior Kaitlynn  
Sterkowitz



Mr. Sean Hudson  
and Sophomore  
Brittney Bass



Sophomore Olshianna Doss



Athletic Trainers

Mr. Sean Hudson and Ms. Sue Hayes, Trainers

First row: Teannah Taylor, Olshianna Doss, Whitney Knisley; Second row: Hannah Webster, Brittney Bass  
Back row: Sarah Mason, Elliott Parker, Morgan Orosz.



Mock Trial Team

Mrs. Sharon Row, Sponsor

Front row: Cha'ya Eddie, Andrená Dicks, Raven Summers, Blair McDaniel;  
Second row: James Wright, Cameron Williamson, Daniel Armstrong, Andre  
Wilkerson; Back row: Mrs. Row, Mr. Todd Conover.



Aktion Club

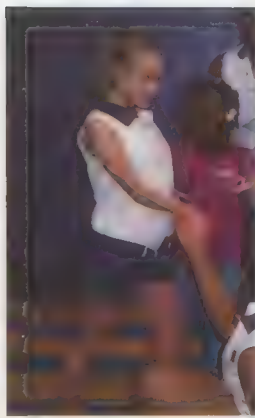
Mrs. Barb Dlouhy, Sponsor

Front row: Terrance Johnson, Da'Sheanna Hearst, Russell Parkhurst; Back row:  
Mrs. Dlouhy, Nathan Barnes, Kearo Adams.





Freshman  
Victoria Collins



Junior Katelynn Usher and  
MPAC Fun Fair participant



#### Merrillville Pirate Athletic Counsel

Ms. Janis Qualizza, Sponsor

Front row: Katelynn Usher, Eleny Babolonia, Kelsey Sajdera, Jasmine Wade, Victoria Collins, Aubrey Cowser, Diona Milenkovski, Emily Kurczynski, Whitney Knisley; Second row: Melissa Kwiatkoski, Francis Dusik, Sydney Harold, Brandon Shea, Brittney Bass, Darren Blaylock, Melanee Stubbs, Natalie Riechers, Alexis Connelly; Third row: Ms. Qualizza, Kaitlyn Phillips, Landau Lang, Kelly Wiggins, Sanchez Tate, Denzel Pierce, Michael Enghofer, Anthony Miranda; Back row: Valerie Bly, Hannah Webster, Jacob Caddick, Messay Crawford-Taylor, Jason Simpson, Kevin Schroeder, Jeremiah Jones, Arlen Sims, Ashley Jamerson.



Senior Julie Hays

## PIRATES **GET** involved



#### Voices of Reason

Ms. Betty Jordan, Sponsor

Front row: Kandice Nicholson, Treasura Sowell, Keiko Cooley, Alyssa Ross, Shaunice Holbrook; Second row: Tia Rucker, Melody Harris, Jazmin Jones, Carlisia Wheatley; Third row: Raven White, Alva Wilson, Taylor Haynes; Back row: Ms. Jordan, Brandon Wright, André Ross, Adrian Weaver.



#### Society of Student Authors

Mrs. Melissa Sickinger, Sponsor

Nicole Varela, Alyson Austin, Heather Mihal, Lauren Lambert.



# IT'S GAMEtime

As the Homecoming Week progressed, everyone could tell the participation in Spirit Week was better than years before.

"Students got involved in showing school pride and we exceeded expectations and everyone showed how much they love Merrillville High School," Student Government sponsor Mr. Michael Knocke said.

The dressing part of the week was not a problem. "On Wacky Tacky Day people went above and beyond. If more people would've dressed on the first day, it would have been better, but we still had a great week," Senior Lakeshia Miles said.

The seniors won both the class float competition in the Homecoming Parade and they won the Goofy Games for the fourth year in a row.

Students participated in Twister, diaper surprise, ring toss and the pudding slide. "Participation was awesome at the Goofy Games, with about 100 kids having a good time representing their class," Mr. Knocke said.

Homecoming Week ended with the game against LaPorte Friday night. "I went to the game and was excited when they won because I would have been mad sitting in the cold for all that time," Junior Monte Gates said.

The Pirates won the Homecoming football game against the LaPorte Slicers and Senior James Travis was selected as Mr. Football.

*After being announced as the 2009 Mr. Football, Senior James Travis said that he was surprised, yet happy, that his team chose him to be this year's Mr. Football. Travis thought that some of his other teammates such as Seniors Landau Lang, Marcus Howard and Christian Matthews were also worthy candidates.*



## MONDAY

Nerd Day was a day for students to step out of their comfort zone and flaunt their inner nerd.

## TUESDAY

Twin Day is the day during spirit week when students coordinate their outfits with other students to look like each other.

## WEDNESDAY

Wacky Tacky Day is the day when students throw on different pieces of clothing, not caring whether they match.



Riding on the senior float that she helped to create, Senior Amber Medwetz blows bubbles to the cheering children. "It [building the float] was a lot of hard work, but I was glad to see it pay off," Medwetz said.



With cape and tiarra, Senior Faith Smith joins fellow Dance Team Seniors Nadia Randolph and Ashley Bland on their float during the Homecoming parade. "Overall, the best part was spending time with friends outside of school and showing school spirit," Smith said.

"Playing Twister was hard because there were so many people," Senior Jaylah Robinson said. "But I'm glad the seniors came in first and it was a great experience for my last year," Robinson added.





Sophomore Daniel Humes



Senior Kaitlynn Sterkowitz and Sophomore Whitney Knisley



Senior Briana Barrera and Junior Kortney Eaton



Mr. Jacob Stafford



Senior Jericca Jasso



Senior Jamel Danzy

## THURSDAY

Students, and even teachers, dress up like their favorite super heroes on Super Hero Day.

## FRIDAY

Pirate Pride Day is the day before the dance when everyone wears purple to show school spirit.

## SATURDAY

The Homecoming Dance was a time for many students to wear dresses, suits and ties, and enjoy the Retro Fever.



Freshman class president Anjelica Peppers participates in the Goofy Games. Peppers said she believed it was a good way to get involved with other classes and bond with everyone. Although Peppers was nervous to be standing in front of everyone while being painted dark blue, she said that it was a blast and she will continue to do it every year.







Packed up in a tight group, Sophomore Kaitlin Grzybowski and others savor their time at the dance. Attending the dance was not the only activity that Grzybowski and her friends participated in. "After the dance, we all went bowling, which was the best part of the night," Grzybowski said.

Standing on the field during halftime at the football game, Senior Homecoming Queen nominees Melina Rivera, Dominique Marshall, Diamond Cody, Natalie Vartanoff and Jessica Brooks patiently waited for the announcement of who would be crowned 2009 Queen.

"I was very excited and honored when I found out that I was nominated," Senior Dominique Marshall said.

"It was a nice experience to be nominated. I didn't expect it at all," Senior Diamond Cody said.

After waiting anxiously for several minutes, Queen Melina Rivera stepped forward to be crowned as our 2009 Homecoming Queen.

"I was very happy when they called my name. I know my mom was proud of me," Rivera said.

Entering the Homecoming dance the following day, Queen Melina walked into a whole new environment in the freshman wing cafeteria. With balloons covering the floor and finger foods on the table, many students enjoyed their time at the dance.

Many students arrived in large groups of friends.

"I think it's okay to attend the dance with either a date or a group of friends, because if you go with a date it is more romantic, but if you go with a group of friends, it is more fun," Junior Isis Franklin said.

Many who attended the dance felt the same, with just one minor change.

"I think it is better to go with a group of friends so you can't get mad if someone is dancing with your girl," Senior Jaylen Bentley said.

This year's theme was Retro Fever. Some students added the finishing touches to what they thought was a retro-themed outfit.

"It was easy for me to dress retro," Senior Julian Taylor said, "because that is my style anyway."



Senior Melina Rivera

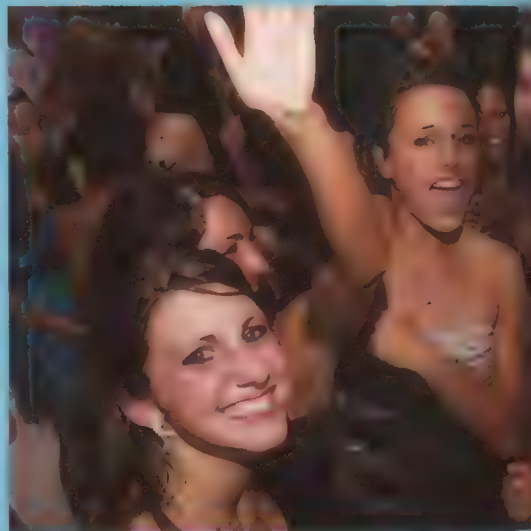


Senior Jessica Brooks

Making use of the dance floor, Senior Endda Ford and friends move to the music. "The Retro theme was nice. I'll always remember Senior Pete Paskash dancing crazy to the great music," Ford said.



Hands in air, Senior Lisa Pozniak, Junior Valerie Bly and Sophomore Alexandra Domoras take notice of the camera as they dance the night away. Pozniak mentioned that gathering and dancing with friends was something she would always remember. "Dancing and partying up with everyone was the best part of the night," Domoras said.





# DANCE <sup>IT</sup>up



After crowning the 2009 Homecoming Queen, the nominees pose for the formal picture. Most of the girls advertised themselves around the school by making posters to encourage the student body to vote for them. "Don't get caught up in the rivalry of winning the crown. Just be glad that you were nominated," Senior Diamond Cody advised.

At the retro-themed event, Junior Skylar Rothgeb and his date Freshman Taylor Olsen of Hebron High School enjoy a night of dancing. Rothgeb mentioned that the best part of the dance was meeting up with a friend he had not seen in a long time.



While at the Homecoming Dance, Juniors Jenniye Adams and Victoria Smith take a break from the dance floor. Adams really liked how people reacted to the variety of music that was played. "When the song 'You're a Jerk' came on, it was funny seeing all the girls doing the 'Jerk' in heels," Adams said.



As the announcer introduces her, Senior Homecoming Queen Melina Rivera waves to fans in the stands. Rivera said all the girls were equal in competition and her only thought while standing on the field was that she wanted to win. "I was very happy when I found out I won. I knew my mom was gonna be proud," Rivera said.



Senior Natalie Vartanoff



Senior Dominique Marshall

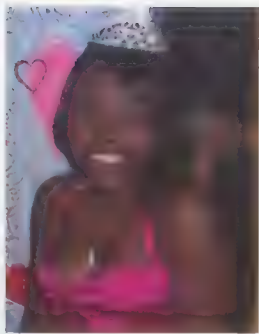


Senior Diamond Cody





Freshman  
Edith Amitoelau



Sophomore  
April Bailey



*Hanging out together, Freshmen Taylor Gaddy, Elizabeth Nieves and Sophomore Rovon Turner enjoy the Freshman-Sophomore Winter Formal. "I wanted to go with my friends because I love them," Gaddy said.*

With Prom being especially for juniors and seniors, freshmen and sophomores are left feeling left out and ignored. Luckily for them, Family, Consumer and Career Leaders of America host the annual Freshman-Sophomore Winter Formal every year.

This year FCCLA hosted the ninth annual formal and more than 160 freshmen and sophomores attended.

"The best part about the Winter Formal is hanging out with your friends," Freshman Amber Smith said.

"I would definitely go again as a junior or a senior. I loved dancing, drinking pop and watching everybody act crazy on the dance floor," Sophomore Joshua Walker remarked.

Many freshmen who attended dances at Pierce Middle School found that dances in high school were much more enjoyable.

"It was better than dances at Pierce because there was better music, it was more fun and they're after school," Smith said.

At the end of the night, Freshman Edith Amitoelau and Sophomore April Bailey were crowned the Winter Formal princesses.

"I knew I was going to win, but I was still just as happy and excited when I was crowned. I would go again as a junior just to see who wins after me," Bailey remarked.

# A FORMAL affair

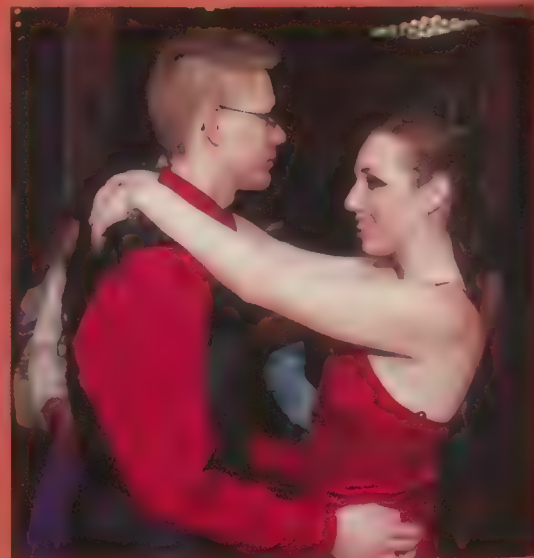


*At the Freshman-Sophomore Winter Formal, Freshmen Marissa Taylor and Michael Ramey Jr. smile while dancing. "I'm only a freshman and I wanted to see what it was like," Taylor said. "The thing I will remember the most is probably dancing with my friends," Taylor added.*

*During the Freshman-Sophomore Winter Formal, Sophomores Shermika Winston and Brittany Jones show off their dresses. Winston said her most memorable moment was "when my friends kept trying to get me to dance, but I didn't want to."*



*In each other's arms, Freshman Cole Carr and Hebron High School Freshman Riley Walsh enjoy the Freshman-Sophomore Winter Formal. "I wanted to go with a friend. We're good friends and I knew she'd go," Carr said.*





# THE VIP party



Dancing the night away in his best attire, Senior Russell Parkhurst enjoys his time at the Inclusion Dance. "I've gone to all the dances my four years of high school. I had fun dancing and getting together with friends," Parkhurst said. Parkhurst also added that they played a lot of different types of music for slow and fast dancing.



Enjoying her first experience at the Inclusion dance, Freshman Jenna Rose is having fun dancing on the floor. "This was the first time I went to the dance. I had a lot of fun," Rose said. Most of the students attended the dance alone and met up with friends after they arrived. "I went alone, but I saw a lot of my friends once I got there. Being with my friends is what made it fun," Rose said.

Right before the Freshman-Sophomore Winter Formal, Family, Consumer and Career Leaders of America hosted the Inclusion dance.

The Inclusion dance is a chance for special education students to get a night dedicated just to them. Students from Crown Point, Calumet, Hobart and River Forest High Schools, as well as Merrillville, all gathered at Merrillville High School for the dance. Merrillville alumni are also invited to attend every year.

"Quite a few kids come back for the dance after they leave MHS. They usually call me and ask about it before I can even call them," Mrs. Barb Dlouhy said.

For many of the students who attend, the excitement and anticipation for the dance is almost too much to bear.

"The kids start talking about it the first week of school. They always ask if we'll have it as soon as they come back from summer vacation," Mrs. Dlouhy said.

This year's Inclusion dance was the 16th Inclusion Dance to be held, and more than 75 students and alumni attended.



Having a great time dancing to the music, Sophomore Tyshawn Kidd is swaying to the rhythm. At the event the students were able to participate in a dancing contest. "I really enjoyed the dancing contest they had that night. A lot of people participated in it and it was fun to watch," Kidd said. Students attended this dance for several reasons. "Besides wanting to have a fun night, I really just wanted to get out of the house," Kidd said.



Junior Benjamin Banks



Freshman Jenna Rose



Freshman Samantha Sorbello



# EXPECT THE best



## AFJROTC Command Staff

Maj. Guy Ramey and SMSgt. Dan Wrasman, Instructors

Front row: Megan McGill, Brittanie Thomas, Lindsey Mitchell; Back row: Victor Avellano, Joshua Gaines.



## AFJROTC Drill Team

Maj. Guy Ramey and SMSgt. Dan Wrasman, Instructors

Front row: Jocelyn Recio, Tierra Allen, Cheyenne Briner, SMSgt. Wrasman; Second row: Anthony Pitts, O'Shea Owens, James Schilling, Shannon Thurson; Back row: Frederick Heth III, Jeremiah Knox, Gregory Brousseau III, Michael Jones IV, Zachary Fles.



## AFJROTC Color Guard

Maj. Guy Ramey and SMSgt. Dan Wrasman, Instructors

Front row: James Schilling, Chancey Walker, Megan McGill, Garrett Gault; Second row: Victor Avellano, Frederick Heth III, Brandon Vlasic; Back row: Zachary Fles, Christopher Turner.

Enjoying her last ball, Cadet First Lieutenant Senior Xochitl Logan dances with Senior Antonia Martinez and Sophomore LaShaunta Taylor. "I'm going to miss the feeling of belonging to a group that, no matter what, you are accepted," Cadet First Lieutenant Logan said. Even though Cadet First Lieutenant Logan has been in AFJROTC for three years, she has decided not to go into the service after high school. Instead, she has decided to attend Manchester College.



During a varsity football game, Senior Crystal Valant, Sophomore Christopher Turner and Senior Megan McGill present the flags.



Stepping away from the dance floor, Sophomore Jabria Sistrunk enjoys the music with her date, Freshman Rashad Standfield. This was Sistrunk's second year participating in AFJROTC. She does not plan to continue her career with the Air Force when she gets out of high school. Sistrunk said she loved AFJROTC and did it because it was something fun for her to do.





*Catching up with Sophomore Talia Constant, Core Commander Senior Lindsey Mitchell takes a break from dancing at the Military Ball. "The dance was fun. During the ball, we toasted to the branches of the military and to the president," Core Commander Mitchell said.*



*With friends and family at his side, Senior Zachary Edwards smiles with Seniors Kathleen Towry, Matthew Edwards and Dylan Certa. Certa was the Master Web Page Designer, and he said he will miss AFJROTC after he graduates.*

Every spring, the AFJROTC Military Ball comes along just in time for the AFJROTC students to let their hair down and take a break from all their military duties.

The AFJROTC students not only participate in the class, but they can also be selected to be part of the command staff, drill team or color guard.

"It's really fun just to go and have fun sometimes, especially when you're in a class that requires you to always be serious," Senior Antonia Martinez said.

The Military Ball is a formal event that includes a military ceremony, a formal dinner and dancing.

"The whole purpose of the Military Ball is to expose our cadets to a formal setting. You would be surprised at how many students sit down and ask what all these forks are for," Major Guy Ramey said.

The AFJROTC program is more than just a class. They also try to reach out to the community. The AFJROTC class works together on a group community service project.

"We do a lot of community service. For instance, right now we are cleaning up Broadway for 'Adopt A Highway'," Major Ramey said.

"The whole point of this class is just to make better citizens for our country," Major Ramey added.



*As a new member of the AFJROTC program, Junior Amanda Johnson enjoys her first experience at the Military Ball with her date, Leslie Trotter, a Lew Wallace graduate. One of Johnson's favorite memories from this year was the ball. "We ate and danced. Some people gave speeches," Johnson said.*





As the music plays, Senior Maurice Gillespie and Junior Gabriela Ponce dance in the middle of a crowd. Gillespie mentioned how excited he was for Prom and how it ended. "I enjoyed my whole day. I want to relive it," Gillespie said.

Preparation, anxiety and costs are all part of making sure Prom night is one that will never be forgotten. From deciding and then finally asking a date to Prom, up until stepping onto the red carpet at the Grand March, students had to make plans and decisions.

"It took me about two months to be fully prepared for Prom. I initially did not plan on attending Prom, so I borrowed my dress from a friend. My Prom date took care of everything else," Junior Jessica Martin said.

To begin the night, students attended the Grand March, where Prom King and Queen were crowned. It was also a time for them to show off their dresses and tuxedos and to give parents a chance to see them and take pictures.

"It felt good to be nominated as Prom Queen because that showed that my teachers felt I would be a good candidate. My most memorable moment was when I walked with Derrian Baker at the Grand March because my date didn't show up on time," Junior Prom Queen Robin Williamson said.

The theme of the 2010 Prom was "Hollywood Premiere" and was held at the Avalon Manor on May 7, 2010. Upon arrival, many students headed straight to the dance floor.

"I would have to say that boogying on the dance floor with my friends was the highlight of the night," Junior Kyle Strom said.

Though the DJ had technical difficulties throughout the night, most students enjoyed their night at Prom.

"Overall, I believe that the 2010 Prom was a success and hopefully it will be this nice next year," Senior Gabrielle Roberts said.



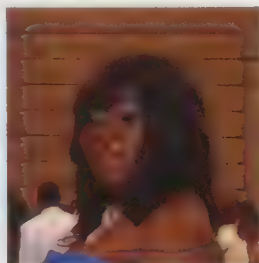
Close by, Senior Jillian Larson and her date, Chris Hernthaisong of Calumet College of St. Joseph dance to the music. "Once my friends pulled me out on the dance floor, I really got into the music," Larson said. Larson went into the Prom with no expectations as it was her first time attending a dance in high school.



Junior Melanie Ortiz



Junior Eleni Kazonis



Junior Shaunice Holbrook

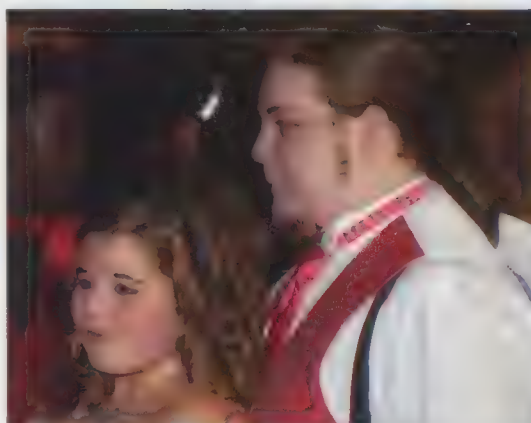


# FIT FOR hollywood

Enjoying the night, Senior Colin Schafer and Junior Sydney Harold move to the beat. Instead of the usual dinner plans of going to a restaurant, "we went to White Castle. We kept it classy," Schafer said.

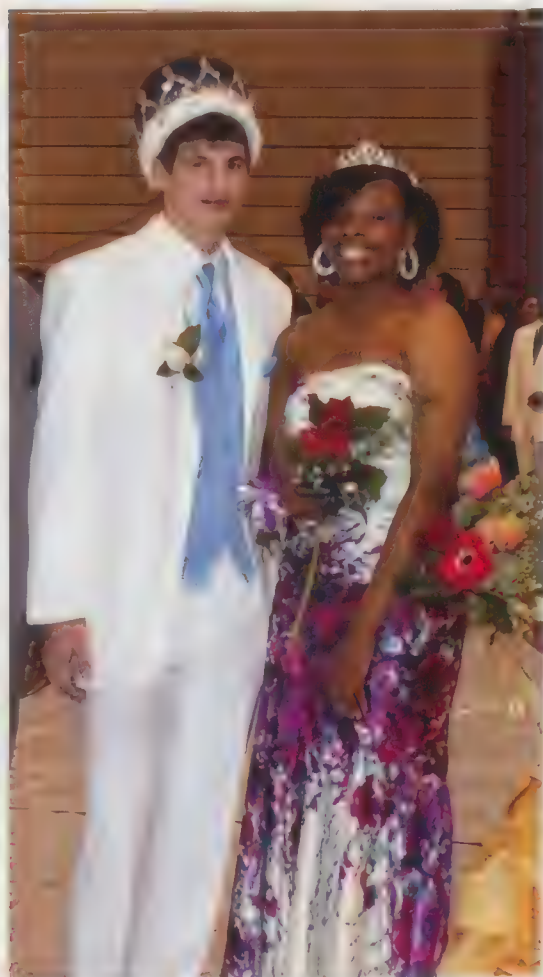


Making the best of their evening, Seniors Naudia Bradley, Ashley Bland, and Gabrielle Roberts dance with each other. "There was non-stop dancing. It seemed like no one even left the dance floor," Bradley said. "Everyone looked like a bunch of stars in Hollywood," Bland said.



With her boyfriend Mike Olsen by her side, Junior Marissa Novak dances to the tunes of the Hollywood theme. "Prom was amazing. There was no drama. All the jokes and laughs from everyone made it a good time," Novak said.

Side by side, Junior Zachary Raspopovich and Junior Robin Williamson stand as the newly crowned Prom King and Queen. "Stay humble if you win," King Zachary said.



Slow dancing together, Senior Cameron Mitchell and his date, Amanda Lemme from Emerson School for Visual and Performing Arts, spend the moments dancing to the calm music. Prom can be expensive for some, but others will go above and beyond to make it something to remember. "I spent a little under \$500 only on myself. It was such a memorable experience. So it was worth it," Mitchell said.



Junior André Ross



Junior Michael Gillis



Junior Russell Cole II



*Giolas photo*



*Seniors Gabrielle Roberts, Mariah Dennis, Naudia Bradley and Brittini Jackson*





# STEAL THE spotlight

Fame. I'm gonna live forever. I'm gonna learn how to fly. I feel it coming together. People will see me and cry. I'm gonna make it to heaven. Light up the sky like a flame. Fame. I'm gonna live forever. Baby, remember my name. Fame. I'm gonna live forever. I'm gonna learn how to fly. I feel it coming together. People will see me and cry. Fame. I'm gonna make it to heaven. Light up the sky like a flame. Fame. I'm gonna live forever. Baby, remember my name. Fame. I'm gonna learn how to fly. I feel it coming together. People will see me and cry. Fame. — "Fame" by Irene Cara

For nearly 300 years, artists have made the transformation from paints, pencils and oils to forms, emotions and presences. And thus, a new form of art was created.

The Performing Arts Department gives every student the chance to explore the actor or actress, the singer, the dancer, the comedian, the musician and the director within each of them.

"Art is the only way to run away without leaving home." —Twyla Tharp

After pushing us through rigorous academic courses and testing our fitness and endurance through sports, the least Merrillville High School could do was give us an opportunity to venture into the artistry of being a performer.

To relieve these pressures, Merrillville offers a variety of activities and occasions to students who wish to express their talents and creativity.



Advanced Band

Mr. Mark Danielson, Director

Front row: Jacqueline Pena, Gloria Graham, Amber Medwetz, Kelli Chavez, Ashley Ahlborn, Sarah Dora, Cha'ya Eddie; Second row: Courtney Pitts, Stephanie Lobody, Kathleen Murphy, Daniella Douglas, Kaitlyn Phillips, Julie Hays, Charne Knight, Samantha Bailey; Third row: Mr. Danielson, Charles Smith, Jasmine Ervin, Robert Balash, Malcolm Graham, Autry Phillips, Ronald McMillian, Lacie Denwood; Fourth row: Jacob Caddick, Armando Miller, Christopher Taylor, Terrence Yon, Parry Papamihalakis, Amon Garner-Poston; Back row: Christian Frink, Juan Rivera, Phillip Mayweathers, Ashley Jamerson.



# FEAR THE drumline

Band Director Mr. Mark Danielson's hopes of performing in the Chicago Thanksgiving Day Parade became a reality this season. This event was one of the highlights of the band's accomplishments this year.

"Being in the parade was really fun and, by far, one of the best things that has happened for us," Senior drum major Cha'ya Eddie said.

"I'll always remember the fun we had during the parade and knowing that good things come to bands who wait," Senior flutist Julie Hays said.

One thing a few band members will always remember was the opportunity to meet bands from all over the nation and see how they operate.

Along with playing on national television, the MHS band performed in concerts throughout the year to showcase their talents.

"All together, the concerts take about two months to perfect," Hays said.

With performances by the Advanced, Intermediate and Beginning Bands, hard work paid off in competition. The Marching Band won a silver medal at the ISSMA district competition.

Eddie said, "This year's band is more dedicated, committed and passionate."



In front of the crowd at a football game, Freshman trumpet player Christian Brunski performs. "I'm never nervous going out in front of a small crowd or huge crowd because you gotta be confident. If you're not confident, you won't succeed," Brunski said.



Senior flutist Julie Hays has been in band since sixth grade, but one of her most memorable moments came in her last year of high school when the band marched in the Chicago Thanksgiving Day Parade. "It was a great feeling to be invited to the parade. Being in it was such a big event for us, and it was being broadcasted on television," Hays said.

Inspired by his love of music, Senior trumpet player Armando Miller has been in band for seven years. "This year's band attitudes are much better than last year. We're always thinking about what we can do instead of what we can't," Miller said. "We have improved greatly in the past few years as a band."





"This year, we have made a lot of progress as a whole, and we're only going to get better," Senior flutist Amber Medwetz said. "We improved a lot this year, especially because we had a really good crop of freshmen come in. It really worked to our benefit," Medwetz said. Medwetz has also been in band and playing the flute since the sixth grade.



In the cold, bitter wind, Sophomore saxophone player Kathleen Murphy focuses on hitting the right notes. "Playing in the band inspires me a lot. With more experience, I will only get better," Murphy said. Murphy plans to go to college after high school and continue with band.



On the drums, Freshman Joseph Brady concentrates while performing in front of a crowd at a Merrillville football game. "Band is fun, especially with the people who are around you, and you're with them all the time. Starting in the summer, practicing for eight hours every day, we bonded a lot," Brady said. "Mr. Danielson is like a father figure. He would spend his last on the band, and he does everything he can for us."



Freshman cornet player James Medwetz loves to play music, and he does what it takes to be good at it. "We train hard during Marching Band season. We practice for eight hours, go home tired, wake up, do it all over again, and I love it," Medwetz said. He is also inspired by his older sister, Amber Medwetz, who is also in band.

"We're more dedicated, more committed and more passionate" Senior drum major Cha'ya Eddie said about this year's band compared to last year's band. "Being the major, it's a lot of responsibility and hard work, but I do what I have to to help the band do its best," Eddie said.



Members of the Vocalteens often travel around the community entertaining people with their songs and dance. Performing during the holiday concert are Sophomore Chardonney Balkcom, Junior Michael Barnett and Junior Payton Parker. "It usually takes me two or three weeks to learn the dance moves," Parker said.



"The best show is the spring one. It's a goodbye to the seniors, and everybody is happy that the school year is almost over," Junior Mariah Trigg said. Trigg started on Varsity Choir and later tried out for and made the Vocalteens.



"Being in choir is like having another family, just like if you played a sport," Junior Matthew Fayson said. "I was singing around Anthony Watson one day, and he said I should join, so I did," Fayson added.



"We usually work the hardest during ISSMA season. During ISSMA, we put together group pieces, and it can be hard because you might get put in more than one group," Junior Russell Cole II said. Cole sang with Junior Mariah Trigg during the holiday concert.



"The hardest part of choir is when we have to sing in a different language," Junior Jama Jackson said. Jackson said that it took a while to learn the dynamics, notes and pitches of each song. Junior Michael Johnson joins Jackson in a duet during the holiday concert.





"I've always liked to sing, and music is my life, so choir was perfect for me," Junior Kimberly Tapper said. "Practicing is what always makes the difference in our performances. It gets everyone excited and ready to go," Tapper added.



Snapping their fingers to the beat, Sophomores Kayla Green, Stormie Schilling and Patricia Spikes sing Mariah Carey's "All I Want For Christmas" for the crowd. "What I enjoy most about being in choir is when we learn new songs," Spikes said.



"What really moved me to want to join choir was when my dad passed. He was always telling me to do something with my talent, but I never did," Junior Alexx Wright said. "When he died, it made me want to do something with my singing ability," Wright added.

A program divided by talent, but together at heart, the Merrillville High School choir is one big family. The choir starts with open auditions, where students audition for five different groups with Mrs. Melinda Reinhart as the judge.

The groups include Choralteens, Velveteens, Vocalteens, Concert Choir and Varsity Choir. The Velveteens and Vocalteens are a combined group that together make the Choralteens, which is the most advanced choir.

Concert Choir is the next step under the Choralteens. Even though the two choirs are not on the same level, they still perform with each other.

"I'm in Concert Choir, and I love it. To me, it really isn't a big deal which choir you're in. In the end, it's still a good way to express yourself and just be you," Sophomore Brandon Wright said.

The Varsity Choir consists of all freshman girls, and it is more of a beginning choir.

"The Varsity Choir for me was fun because I was with a lot of friends. It helped me because when Concert Choir started, I was never nervous," Sophomore Dana Collins said. "I have been singing since I was little, but Mrs. Reinhart's help is always good."

## NOTES FOR santa



### Choralteens

Mrs. Melinda Reinhart, Director

Front row: Nicole Varela, Sarah Barnard, Brenda Pidgeon, Mariah Trigg, Chardonay Balkcom, Kayla Johnson; Second row: Kimberly Tapper, Melina Rivera, Mary Williams, Caitlynn Anderson, Tia Rucker, Stormie Schilling, Kiara Stephens-Brown; Third row: Alyssa Shirk, Angelica Dix, Michael Barnett, Malcolm Graham, Victor Rios, Alexx Wright, Jaleesa Holmes, Kourtney Givens; Back row: Patricia Spikes, Payton Parker, Tyrone Brown, LaRon Jones, Russell Cole II, Erik White, Kayla Green.



# Advanced Orchestra

Mr. John Bradford and Mrs. Diana Kowalski, Directors  
 Front row: Nicole Tarulis, Katherine Kolbert, Brittney Bass, Patricia Millard, Harlene Haro, Kaitlyn Sweeney, Corina Vazquez; Second row: Brittni Jackson, Mrs. Kowalski, Jose Rodriguez, Sarah Martin, Scott Gedda, Mr. Bradford, Nichole McFarland; Third row: Allyiah Brown, Tanya Riveron, Jericca Jasso, Cinthia Garcia, Jessica Vasquez, Khari Coker, Alyssa Nymeyer; Fourth row: Jonathon Curry, Kara Phillips, Lauren Carniello, Lauren Kiser, Rachel Drapeau, Myeisha Harris, Aubrey Cowser, Nikko Sadural, Morgan Lamb, Sabrina Smith-Griggs, Kalie Domikaitis; Back row: Elliott Parker, Lacey Richards, Pauline Panayi, LaTonya Harrison, Cameron Grundy, Avery Sameshima, Brianna DeCausemaker, Angela Reynolds, Paige Wilson.



## ALL STRINGS attached

Orchestra was working hard to prepare for multiple concerts, but there is one concert that stands out from the rest. The orchestra had a sold-out winter concert.

"It was a great concert, and it is always enjoyable to deal with large audiences," Orchestra Director Mr. John Bradford said.

Mr. Bradford has been directing orchestra for 12 years.

"Orchestra has great music in history, and it is always different," Mr. Bradford added.

With their winter concert being sold out, the orchestra has been excited to perform at their other concerts as well.

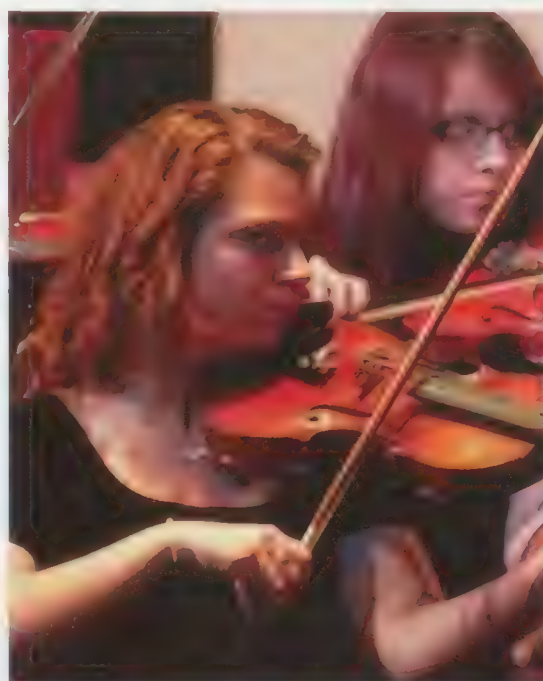
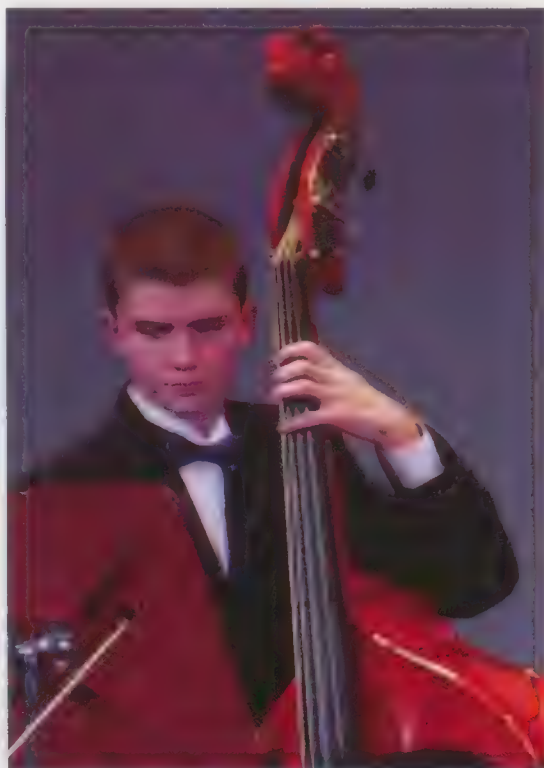
The other performance that the orchestra had to prepare for was the Indiana State School Music Association. However, this event was more like a competition. ISSMA is a competition that involves schools from all over the state of Indiana. The competition is held in Indianapolis during the month of February.

"We have been practicing a lot," Junior Angela Reynolds said.

The orchestra has been working hard to perfect their performance. They are excited about this competition, and they are hoping to receive a gold medal this year.

"We have improved a lot this year," Senior Patricia Millard said.

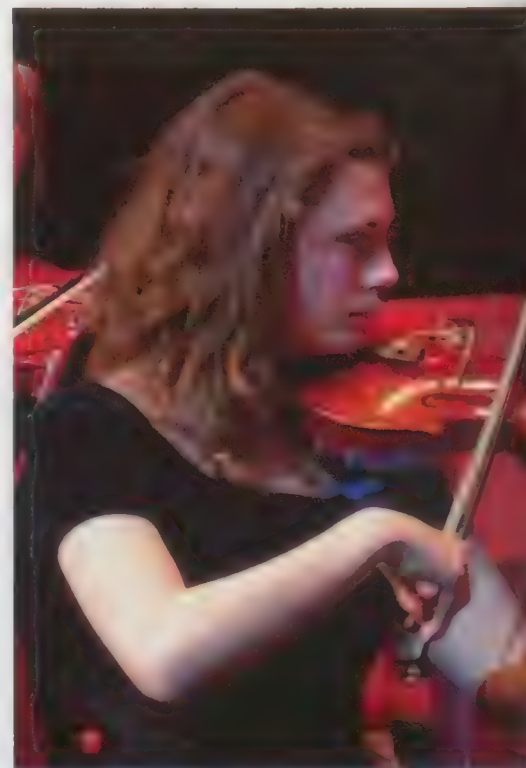
"We make progress every year," Mr. Bradford added.



During the sold-out winter concert, Sophomore advanced violinist Morgan Lamb plays her favorite instrument. When choosing her instrument, Lamb liked that the violin played mainly the melody and that her hands were big enough. "The hardest song the Advanced Orchestra played was the '3 Minute Nutcracker,'" Lamb said.

"I always wanted to play the violin. My parents and teachers inspired me the most," Senior advanced violinist Aubrey Cowser said. Like others, Cowser agreed that the "3 Minute Nutcracker" was the hardest song that they played at the winter concert.

Freshman intermediate bass player Joseph Cowser is excited about the sold-out winter concert. "With my sister being in orchestra, I wanted to follow in her footsteps," Cowser said.





Concentrating, Junior intermediate violinist Stephanie Husek is determined not to mess up. "I chose orchestra because, basically, I can't sing," Husek said. Husek chose the violin because it stuck out to her.



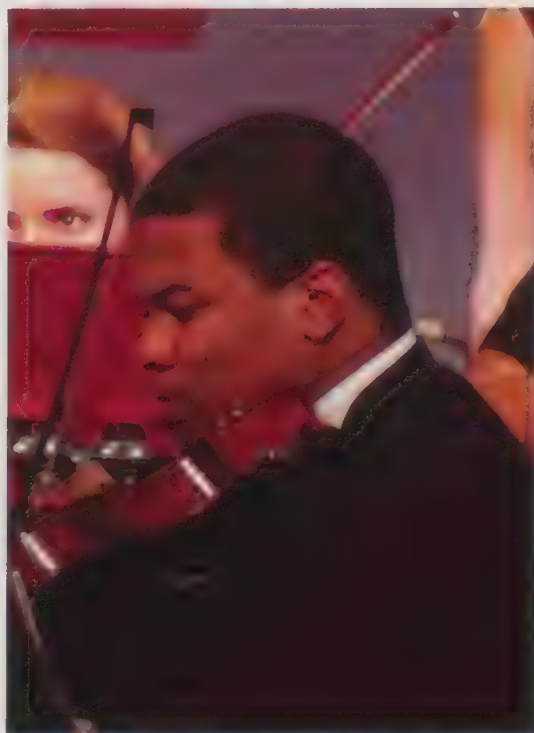
"I appreciate playing the violin because I enjoy all the sound ranges it can hit," Freshman advanced violinist Avery Sameshima said. Sameshima chose orchestra because it appealed to him. "It is more relaxing towards me," Sameshima said.



"I chose orchestra because it seemed more sophisticated to me," Sophomore intermediate cellist Caleb Sanchez said. Choosing the cello was an easy decision for Sanchez. "I chose the cello because I liked the sound. The pitch isn't too high or too low," Sanchez said.



"My grandpa inspired me the most. He's really good at playing the guitar and is very musically talented," Sophomore advanced viola player Cameron Grundy said. Grundy was surprised to see that the winter concert was sold out. "Not many people picked the viola. I wanted something different from everyone else," Grundy said.



During the winter concert, Senior advanced cellist Scott Gedda plays with his partner, Sophomore advanced cellist Katherine Kolbert. "With my brother in band and my sister in choir, I wanted to join something different," Gedda said. Although the winter concert was sold out, Gedda was disappointed that all of his family was not able to come and watch.



# READY, SET act



When the ghosts first appeared in the mansion, Cliff Rundle (Junior Russell Cole II) was the only human character able to see them, which elates his fellow characters because now they can determine how the ghosts died. The ghosts, Junior BreAnne Pulphus, Senior Nicole Varela and Junior Richard Smith surrounded the character. "It is different with Mr. Elser. He makes us work more independently," Pulphus said. Pulphus wants to further her career in acting after high school.

Greg (Junior Kyle Daniels), a ghostly inhabitant of the castle, shows off for his girlfriend, who is also a ghost. "In drama, everybody does a little bit of everything," Daniels said. Having a new teacher, Daniels quickly had to adjust. "You can say it is like starting over," Daniels said.



Everyone in the castle seems captivated by Natalie (Senior Erika Goode-Perry), including Greg (Junior Kyle Daniels) and Russell (Senior Richard Smith), who focus intently as she approaches. "What many people may not know about drama is that acting is very hard. It takes a lot of hard work and dedication, just like many sports," Smith said.



All of the humans in the castle, except Cliff Rundle (Junior Russell Cole II), are afraid of the ghosts. The resident ghosts, Russell (Senior Richard Smith) and Greg (Junior Kyle Daniels), haunt the characters. Seniors Alyssa Shirk and Madison Cofield and Sophomore Claudia Strong cluster for protection around Cliff and recoil in fear. Drama Director Mr. Steve Elser has been involved with theatre since the third grade. "I was pleased with the way the play turned out," Mr. Elser said.

To check for the sounds of the ghosts, Inga Toben (Senior Madison Cofield) shares the head phones with Jackie Barnes (Senior Alyssa Shirk). "Drama is more than just acting and singing," Cofield said. Cofield was part of the Technical Theatre Team that won third place at the Indiana State Thespian Conference. Cofield wants to attend college to become a theatre teacher, and she hopes to come back to teach at MHS.







A comedy mixed with a mystery is acted out as the play "High Spirits." The setting takes place in an old Hollywood mansion, where ghost hunters try to solve mysteries with a few laughs along the way.

"There's a lot of hard work to put into a play. Most of the time, it's either quit your job or quit the play," Senior Madison Cofield said.

Many steps are required to participate in a play. The first step is choosing the play. Then, auditions must be held to handpick the performers. After the auditions, the performers have approximately two weeks to memorize their lines. Come show night, the "techies" must help the show by moving sets, controlling lights and adjusting sound.

Cofield acted as Inga Toben, and Leslie

Little was played by Senior Nicole Varela.

Drama Director Mr. Steve Elser, who has been in theatre for 47 years, enjoyed directing "High Spirits." The 2009 play lasted four nights. The crowds amounted to approximately 600 people over four nights.

Varela, who has been acting for about nine years, made a movie for the State Thespian Conference. This movie, a physiological drama, was written for Mr. Charles Seligman's class. Varela keeps a good luck charm with her, a wooden cross that she received for her confirmation.

"Finding the character and actually becoming a part of it was hard. You have to put yourself in their shoes. When you have a character that is the opposite of you, that's when it becomes hard," Varela said.



In the role of psychic Galena, Sophomore Claudia Strong attempts to help the human characters determine how the ghosts died. Galena is not a very good psychic, and she relies more on Cliff Rundle, who can see the ghosts, to tell her what is going on. "Drama is a way to express yourself. It is a place where people can accept you for who you are, no matter what you stand for," Strong said.

Playing the part of Lezlee Little, a costume designer from Hollywood who was drowned because the producer wanted his girlfriend in the show, Senior Nicole Varela acts surprised at a sudden turn of events. Varela has been involved in drama for eight years. "Drama Club is a way to get away from things that are bothering you," Varela said. Varela plans to major in theatre. Her short film won a ribbon of excellence at the State Thespian Conference.



Like all of the other men in the castle, Cliff Rundle (Junior Russell Cole II) has a crush on Natalie (Senior Erika Goode-Perry). Although Cole loves drama, he does not plan to continue after high school. "Drama is just something fun for me to do," Cole said. While others feel it is difficult to become a character, Cole feels it comes quite naturally.

"We pulled everything together for the show, and everyone did well," Senior Alyssa Shirk said. Shirk's character, Jackie, calls in Galena (Sophomore Claudia Strong) to help locate the ghosts because Galena is psychic.



**D**edication, determination and a great deal of acting and singing skills are all required to produce a well-performed spring musical production.

"We had rehearsals every day, Monday through Friday, for a month and a half from 3 p.m. 'til 5. We got lucky that we did not have to come on the weekends, too," Junior Richard Smith said.

This year's spring musical was *Zombie Prom*, a musical comedy that was dated back to the '50s. It is a tragic tale of terror that illustrates how two high school sweethearts are denied their ability to love by the girl's parents.

In order to perform this musical, many history lessons had to be learned. The actors had to travel back in time in order to properly act out their characters.

There were some returning actors in this play as well as several new ones

who were inexperienced in this type of production.

"This play was a new experience for me. I did not quite know what to expect, but I was glad I decided to perform in this musical," Sophomore Sarah Barnard said.

Directing since 1991, Mrs. Melinda Reinhart was pleased with the final outcome.

"There is an enormous amount of work done on and off the set in order to put on an enjoyable show. From the set design to the advertisement, it can become very time-consuming and stressful. Also, getting the whole cast to attend rehearsals at the same time was quite frustrating," Mrs. Reinhart said, "In the end, however, it was completely worth it. Being able to see all the puzzle pieces put together, it was a great feeling and allows you to appreciate the end result."



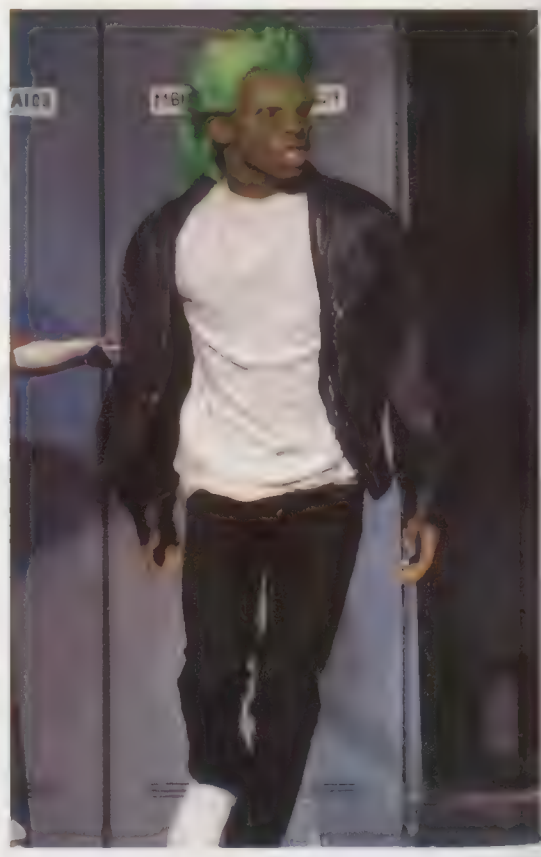
During the nuclear attack drill, a member of the chorus (Sophomore Taylor Carter) hides on the side of Jonny "Without an H" Warner's lunch table.



At the science fair, Joey (Senior Martel Hall), Jonny "Without an H" Warner (Junior Russell Cole II), Jake (Sophomore Brandon Wright) and Josh (Senior Perry Papamihalakis) work on gun racks.



In her role as Miss Delilah Strict, Senior Nicole Varela explains to the students that she is the boss in the song "Rules, Regulations and Respect." "I liked that my opposite in the musical (Senior Malcolm Graham as Eddie Flagrante) was understanding and patient with me. I'm grateful that I could trust him and our entire talented cast," Varela said.



Coming back as a nuclear zombie, Jonny "Without an H" Warner (Junior Russell Cole II) returns to school with green hair and skin. "I'm glad we received many compliments and had a great number of people come out to watch the show," Cole added.



# JUST ACT natural



As the two meet for the first time, Jonny "Without an H" Warner (Junior Russell Cole II) and Toffee (Senior Alyssa Shirk) fall in love. Their love is forbidden because Toffee should not love a "hoodlum."



During the Enrico Fermi Nuclear Fair, Coco (Senior Patricia Millard), Ginger (Freshman Hannah Bailey), Candy (Sophomore Chardonay Balkcom) and Toffee (Senior Alyssa Shirk) titled their booth "Cooking for the Fallout Shelter."



To help Toffee (Senior Alyssa Shirk) deal with her grief at Jonny's dive into the nuclear plant, Ginger (Freshman Hannah Bailey), Jake (Sophomore Brandon Wright) and Candy (Sophomore Chardonay Balkcom) try to cheer her up by talking about Prom. Bailey said the hardest song she had to learn was "The C Word." "I could never say it with the right emotion," Bailey said.

Trying to be constructive, Sheila (Junior Mariah Trigg) reads a magazine while Eddie (Senior Malcolm Graham) is on the phone trying to come up with a great story. Sheila is Eddie's personal secretary at *Expose' Magazine*. "Being on stage and dancing was a great feeling. I'm so happy I had a chance to be in the school musical," Trigg said. "It was a great experience."



While singing about their lives at Enrico Fermi High School, Candy (Sophomore Chardonay Balkcom), Ginger (Freshman Hannah Bailey) and Coco (Senior Patricia Millard) dance through their high school days.





Hitting a famous pose by legend Michael Jackson, Junior Jory Cunningham performs Jackson's "Beat It" in the Lip Sync. Of all the memorable moments from this night, Cunningham describes a highlight he would always remember. "It felt great being able to play Michael. Since he died, I felt like I made him proud," Cunningham said.

For the past six years, the Lip Sync has been a big school event. This show, which was completely sold out this year, is for friends to get together and have fun while performing. For years, the Lip Sync has been an event that students talk big about.

When the show was moved to January, the participants had more time to practice their acts. Eleven groups were chosen to participate in the show. With the different types of people in the show, the audience enjoyed many different genres of music.

"I had a lot of fun. Everyone was really into our songs," Senior DaSheema Jones said. Jones' group performed to Keri Hilson's "Slow Dance" and Travis Porter's "All the Way Turnt Up."

One group's performance dominated the other ten. The crowd reaction, the muscle-revealing dress, dance moves and songs won them the grand prize. Seniors Jaylen Bentley, Monté Brown, Landau Lang, Theofilos Makarounas and Junior Jory Cunningham shared the \$400 prize. They left the crowd screaming on their feet.

"I think our group's biggest competition was 'Jaylen's group' only because they were lathered up in baby oil," Senior Unique Jeter said.

"I was really excited that we won. That's what we wanted to do," Bentley said.

Once all awards were distributed and all lighting bills paid, this event raised over \$5,000 for the Pirate News Network.



The backstage atmosphere was the highlight for Juniors Melanie Manning and Nekaybaw Anderson in the Lip Sync. "All the adrenaline and seeing the groups backstage was the best part," Manning said. This group placed in the top five in the overall competition.

## DAYS OFFame



Representing the Class of 2011, Junior Kameron Knight performs with the largest group in the 2010 Lip Sync. "Our group basically just wanted to show what 2011 can really do," Knight said. It takes time and patience to combine a large group and be stage ready for the show. "Be prepared and pick a leader," Knight added.



"Out of all the years in PNN doing the Lip Sync, I was the back-up dancer. This year I stepped outside my box and did my own thing," Senior Melissa Kwiatkowski said. Performing "Thug Story" by Taylor Swift featuring T-Pain, the crowd joined her singing and rapping along with the music.



"Practice makes perfect," Senior Unique Jeter said as she describes preparation for the Lip Sync. "Practice was very challenging. Some practices people would come late and leave early. It was very stressful," Jeter said. Performing "I Get Crazy" by Nicki Minaj and "Hard" by Rihanna, this group placed third.





Inspired by a friend to show her talent, Junior Lea Neligan sings an original song accompanied by Sophomore Morgan Lamb on violin and Senior Madison Cofield on guitar. "I loved the energy of the show and I was so excited to be on stage. I just hoped I remembered my lyrics," Neligan said.



"I think I killed it!," Junior Payton Parker said to describe his performance. Parker rapped and was accompanied by dancers. "I loved feeling confident in my element," Parker noted.



Auditioning to be in the show for fun, Senior Louisa Schwartz plays the guitar and sings. "When I tried out, I didn't think I was going to make it," Schwartz said.



A part of the Jazz Band, Senior Amon Garner-Poston plays the saxophone along with Junior Sarah Dora on the flute in the Revue. "I don't remember much when I was on stage. I just know I was dancing all around. I blanked out on the song though," Garner-Poston said.



Excited to hear his name chanted, Junior Cody Munroe rocks out to his own song. Munroe said he took a risk being prepared for the show. "On stage I was thinking, 'I should've planned for this.' I made up stuff off the top of my head," Munroe explained.

## SHOW YOUR talent

The 2010 Revue show was a little different than in previous years.

Instead of hosting it as a competition, the Drama Club decided to make it into a talent show.

"It's better not having a competition," Senior Gabrielle Roberts said. "There wasn't any tension about who should have won," Roberts added. "This makes things a lot easier when everyone isn't trying to kill each other," drama teacher Mr. Stephen Elser said.

The event raised over \$1200. Fifteen acts were featured, including song and dance performances and comedy skits.

The students prepared long and hard for this one night to be a success.

Many groups practiced behind the stage, making sure that everything was where it was supposed to be.

The Revue is supposed to be a fun night, where students can showcase their talents that many people didn't know they had.

Crowd attendance was much better than it had been in previous years. The participants in the show were surprised in the attendance of some of the students.

Mr. Elser said he thought the show ran smoothly. He added that he looks forward to next year's Revue to have a better variety of acts and the same atmosphere that was displayed in the Reinhart Auditorium.



Pauline Laorden photo



Seniors Juan Rivera, Andrená Dicks, Colin Schafer, Sabrina Smith-Griggs and Aubrey Cowser



## A black and white photograph of two young women in a school hallway. The woman on the left is wearing a dark jacket with a large, bright yellow and orange graphic on the front, looking upwards. The woman on the right is wearing a dark jacket and dark pants, looking towards the first woman. They are standing in front of a row of lockers.

Every school year, we spend 180 days trying to make the connection between the daily lesson plan and the lessons of life. Each class we take, each paper we write and each year that goes by take us one step closer to where we want to be: the future.

Never before has so much pressure been put on us. We are constantly reminded that the future is in our hands and that we must be our own leaders.

“The first responsibility of a leader is to define reality.” — Max DePree.

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# FACULTY & STAFF

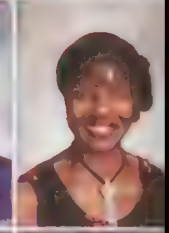
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Janet Anderson  
Mirtha Anguiano  
Joseph Atria  
Michelle Barker  
Amber Baron  
Amy Beckham



Carrie Bedwell  
Robert Bedwell  
Mary Bertram  
Brad Best  
Rada Bicanin  
Kathryn Bihlman  
Jeremy Bilka  
Wade Boise



Janelle Bowen  
Brandon Bowie  
Daryl Bowie Sr.  
Sarah Boyle  
John Bradford  
John Branda  
Sheila Broom  
Sharlyne Buchanan



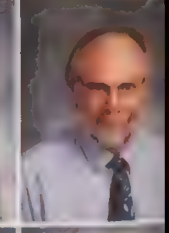
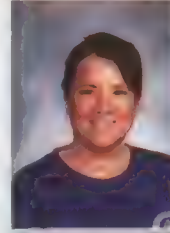
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Mark Ciesielski  
John Collom  
Farida Contractor  
Kim Corman



Lorraine Covaciu  
Linda Cram  
Molly Crawn  
Arnetha Crittenden  
Dawn Czuba  
Benjamin Daniel  
Mark Danielson  
David DeMuth



Cheryl Denney  
Grace Dewald  
Christine Dixon  
Barb Dlouhy  
Cajic Dragica  
Nancy Draper  
Sarah Dumbauld  
Miles Dunscombe



Christine Eaton  
Jeffrey Eaton  
Patricia Eckert  
Latasha Edwards  
Josefina Eliscupides  
Stephen Elser  
Jeffrey Fairbairn  
Mark Fairbairn



Robert Fernando  
Brigitte Floyd  
Melissa Flutka  
Julie Fregien  
Susan Gaines  
William Garner







Beth Gillespie  
 Charles Gleason  
 Mary Goodall-Down  
 Amy Govert  
 Greg Griffith  
 Lyndda Cronowski  
 Angela Hale

Linda Hall  
 Teresa Harnett  
 Christina Haverty  
 Susan Hayes  
 Kira Healy  
 Dave Hinkel  
 Anthony Hofer  
 Michael Hoffman

Meghan Hogan  
 Cari Hooper  
 Dave Hossler  
 Jason Hostetler  
 Sean Hudson  
 Richard Hurey  
 Sara Hurey  
 Joseph Hussey

William Idzior  
 Elisha Israel  
 Timothy James  
 Jennifer Jenkins  
 Eve Johnson  
 Marsha Johnson  
 Darcie Johnston  
 James Johnston

Kathy Jones  
 Betty Jordan  
 Nicki Jusko  
 Ruth Ann Keilman  
 Jason Kendera  
 Nicole Kendrick  
 Sarah Kennedy  
 Elizabeth Kenyon

Christine Kibler-Whelan  
 Debra Klippel  
 Andjelija Knezevic  
 Michael Knocke  
 Nada Kolar  
 Diane Kowalski  
 Rosellen Kozel  
 Themelina Kritikos

Sarah Krowka  
 Michael Krutz  
 Danny Lackey  
 Barbra Laski  
 Jennifer Leek  
 Connie Lewis  
 Elma Lockett  
 Luis Lopez

Rae Lopez  
 Amber Lucas  
 Tricia Lukawski  
 Tony Lux  
 Bob Mackovyak  
 Kristin Maglish  
 Lori Magnuson  
 David Maldonado

Raquel Maldonado  
 Veronica Maldonado  
 Diane Mandon  
 Dawnell Martin  
 Diana Martinez  
 Rachelle Massacavoli  
 Deborah McEnroe  
 Mark McCullom



Mary McVade  
Sean Meagher  
Elaine Mendez  
Lee Meyer  
Nisa Milosavljevic  
Vesna Mitic  
Rina Molina  
Joseph Monahan



Debra Monix  
Helen Moravskij  
Debbie Morgan  
Sally Morgan  
Lafonda Morris  
Meredith Morris  
Dan Moslander  
Erin Mulloy-Flores



Mary Neylon  
Gail Nicolini  
Bonnie Niksch  
Andrew Niksich  
Angelica Nunn  
Heborah Onika-Brazys  
Martha Ortiz  
Rick Parker



Stacy Parkhurst  
Penny Parmley  
Brian Past  
Vicki Paulnitz  
Sandra Paulus  
Nicholas Petralia  
Maryetta Petras  
Deanne Pierce



Marsha Pierson  
Kathleen Pikus  
Steven Prather  
Terry Pratt  
Carolina Procter  
Teresa Procter  
Kyle Prow  
Livia Pucher



Rose Pulliam  
Janis Qualizza  
Guy Ramey  
Shelley Ray  
Karen Reder  
Kari Regan  
Melinda Reinhart  
Leilani Reiser



Christopher Richardson  
Rayshon Richardson  
Pamela Roberts  
Mark Robinson  
Patricia Robison  
Kathleen Rock  
Donna Rodriguez  
Kay Ross



Terri Rothgeb  
Sharon Row  
Marie Samuel  
Mark Schellinger  
Sandra Scholtens  
Daniel Schoon  
Pamela Schuetz  
Jacob Scott



John Seale  
Andrea Seeman  
Marcia Sekuloska  
Charles Seligman  
Pamela Shaffer  
Melissa Sickinger  
James Simon  
Jennifer Simon







Alison Skertic  
Pat Smith  
Patricia Smith  
Rosa Smith  
Shirley Smith  
Jason Sonnenberg  
Rachel Sonnenberg  
Mark Sperling

Meredith Sperling  
Irene Spiro  
Dean Stadt  
Debra Staffeld  
Jacob Stafford  
Margaret Stallings  
Sara Stallings  
James Stamper

Charles Stanford  
Jean Stanford  
Luke Starkey  
Zoran Stefanovic  
Evelyn Steiner  
Kim Stevenson  
Al Stoner  
Whitney Strimbu

Ruthie Sumbry  
Kimberly Suroviak  
Melissa Szczerba  
David Teeter  
Marilyn Thien  
Ronald Thomas  
Derek Thompson  
Sandra Thornton

Jeff Trivette  
Barbara Troupous  
Wanda Underhill  
Cheryl Ursery  
Joy Varela  
Judy Vassallo  
Mary Ann Vernia  
Elzina Washington

Tim Washington  
Yolanda Weems  
Patrice Weil  
Doretha Wheeler  
Sue Whitlock  
Kerry Wiersbe  
Jermece Williamson  
Sally Williamson

Debra Willison  
Michelle Wilson  
Katie Wiser-Krizek  
Daniel Wrasman  
Jeffrey Yelton

Dorothy Yetsko  
Esmeralda Zamora  
Brian Zdych  
Joan Zerbe



# CLASS OF 2013

Tyteanna Abernathy  
Erick Acosta  
Alejandro Acosta Jr.  
Breeana Adeniji  
Maryam Adisa  
Paula Akinrinade  
Jibria Ali  
Arrisa Allen



Danny Allen  
Taylor Allen  
Antwoine Amiker  
Edith Amitoelau  
DeAndre Ammons  
James Anderson  
Earnest Anderson II  
Yvon Anguiano



Kasie Antich  
Amy Aponte  
Tyrin Applewhite  
Morgan Archibald  
Juan Arellano  
Dayanna Arichavala  
Zahra Ariffee  
Ashley Armstrong



Stephanie Armstrong  
Brooklyn Ashby  
Hannah Bailey  
Zacaria Bailey  
Brandon Baldwin  
Ceena Ballentine  
Rachel Baran  
William Baran



Angelicsha Barksdale  
Stephanie Barnard  
Queanna Barnslater  
Francisco Barrera  
Simone Barron  
Vernell Bassett  
Brienne Baylor  
Leonor Bedolla



Joshua Bey  
Emma Bice  
Bryce Billingsley  
Lauren Bistracan  
Eric Blackmon II  
Kanisha Blake  
Breanna Blaton  
Mecha Blue



Christina Bond  
Tracey Boog  
Kesi Bowen  
David Bowman  
Briana Boyd  
Brittney Brack  
Brekell Bradford  
Joseph Brady



Bradley Brayfield  
Francesca Bricker  
Cheyenne Briner  
Clintessa Briner  
Isis Briner  
Joshua Bromberg  
Montel Brooks  
Rebecca Broom







Dshae Brown  
Kevin Brown  
Paris Brown  
Christian Brunski  
Taylor Bryant  
Khalil Buchanan  
Jordan Buhse

Justin Bullock  
Tyrell Bullock  
Randall Bultema Jr.  
Shianne Burden  
Charis Burgstahler  
Olivia Burnett  
Rueben Burns  
John Burns IV

Jacob Butler  
Justin Byrd  
Kyron Byrd  
Branden Campbell  
Jose Carbajal  
Brianna Cardona-Arroyo  
Cole Carr  
Jalissa Carter

Johnathan Carter  
Tony Carter Jr.  
Aalimah Castleberry  
Alexandra Castro  
Shanequa Cauley  
Michael Chabes  
Anthony Chamberlain  
Amber Clay

Tremell Cobb  
Arianna Cole  
Sairjis Coleman Jr.  
Calvin Collier Jr.  
Victoria Collins  
Michael Collyear  
Anthony Contreras  
LaRhonda Cooke

Amanda Cooks  
Travante Cooper  
Valentino Corrales  
John Costakis  
Melissa Costakis  
Danielle Cotillier  
Joseph Cowser  
Valencia Cox

Denisha Crawford  
Mikaela Cristofaro  
Stephen Cummins  
Amanda Currier  
Darius Dabadee  
James Daniels  
Eric Davis  
Jaylyn Davis

Jade Dearmon  
Oyinmiebi Deidigha  
Nicholas Delgado  
Eric DeLuna  
Jordan Diaz  
Jacquelyn Digangi  
Jelena Djurdjevic  
Tabitha Dolton

Tyler Dorsey  
Michelle Douglass  
Darion Dubois-Stinnett  
Jonah Ducret  
Darius Dukes  
Kyle Durham  
Aaron Dye  
Eugene Dykes



Jared Earwin  
Tavia East  
Annalicia Edwards  
Jaylen Ellis  
Nicholas Enghofer  
Clement Ervin  
Kendall Ervin  
Tierra Ervin



Amber Falaschetti  
Adeyinka Fashawe  
Casey Fejes  
Jonathon Feliciano  
Prince Felix  
Summer Fields  
Aian Fisher  
Edwin Fitzsimmons



Zachary Fles  
Ana Flores  
Christa Flores  
Crystal Flores  
Jessica Flores  
Sarah Flores  
Gabriella Floyd  
Deandre Frazier



Taylor Gaddy  
Adam Garcia  
Alan Garcia  
James Garcia  
Christian Garza  
Eric Gatewood  
Taylor Gibson  
Nathaniel Gilham III



Mikel Gipson  
Breia Givens  
Ashley Glenn  
Kevin Gober Jr  
Antonio Gomez  
Emonn Goode-Almodovar  
Zachary Goralczyk  
Hannah Graham



Amber Granderson  
Ashanti Gray  
Erriana Gray  
Saayande Green  
Taja Green  
Raymond Greenleaf  
Demarshe Greer  
Ashley Grey



Anthony Griffin  
Cedric Griffin  
Dezmond Griffin  
Jonna Griggs  
Allison Gronli  
Zachary Gross  
Kaitlynn Grubbs  
Jasmine Gruchmal



Jorge Gutierrez  
Prescott Ha  
Tom Hagan III  
Lauren Harding  
Airrica Harper  
Emma Harper  
Jaylen Harris  
Marcus Harris



Shannon Harris  
Tia Harris  
Keith Harris Jr.  
Kenneth Harsma  
Kierstyn Hartlerode  
Courtney Harvey  
Justin Harvey  
Leeyah Harvey







Anthony Harwood  
Joshua Haynes  
Maciel Haynes  
Taylor Haynes  
Dwayne Henderson Jr.  
Emilio Hernandez  
Samantha Hernandez  
Breon Hill

Daniele Hill-Pierson  
Donell Hinton  
Kevin Hinton  
Jaylan Holifield  
Dartanian Holland  
Christopher Hollingsworth  
Dejshon Hollins  
Erica Homeier

Brittani Hood  
Dcartia Hoskins  
Ricky Houston  
Latrell Hudson  
Zhanique Hudson  
Rhone Hughey  
Alisha Ireland  
Katlyn Ison

Jessica Jackson  
Shadya Jackson  
Stephen Jackson  
Austin Jamerson  
Khalil James  
Quinton Jamison  
Daniel Jankuloski  
Miranda Januszewski

Alejandro Jara  
Brian Jenkins  
Carlos Jenkins Jr.  
Corey Johnson  
Danielle Johnson  
Demonte Johnson  
Jasmine Ann Johnson  
Jasmine Guy Johnson

Jasmine Lanae Johnson  
Jordan Johnson  
Jovanna Johnson  
Juan Johnson  
Karl Johnson  
Khiara Johnson  
Johnathon Joiner  
Marcellus Joiner

Carlyn Jones  
Charmayne Jones  
Jada Jones  
Kourtney Jones  
Quintin Jones  
Joe Jones Jr.  
Kierra Joshua  
Kamell Kelly

Danielle Kemp  
Milton Kiel  
Aaliyah King  
Jashawn King  
Delaun Kirk  
Bre'shay Kirklen  
Markus Kluga  
John Knight

Jermiah Knox  
Jamie Krawczykowski  
Marti Kulakowski  
Miguel Lagunas  
Lauren Lamb  
Dorian Lampton-Funches  
Anthony Lancaster  
Kria Lance



Hannah Lane  
Taylor Langford  
Carlyle Larson  
Paige Lauerman  
Shelby Lee  
Joshua Leschinsky  
Nykia Lewis



James Liles  
Dylan Lipinski  
Violet Lipscomb  
Weijiang Liu  
Devonte Lloyd  
Otavi Locke  
Christian Lockett



Cleveland Lomax  
Shenia Loper  
Nicolas Lopez  
Sarah Love  
Mack Love III  
Mcarthur Lyles  
Breun Magee  
Bianca Maldonado



Mariah Malone  
Kathryn Manis  
Cheyenne Mann  
Whitney Manuel  
Royal Marshall  
Tanisha Martin  
Tracie Martin  
Alexandria Martinez



Jose Martinez  
Andrea Mathis  
Caroline Mattull  
Christopher McClain  
Thomas McFarland  
Steven McGee  
Devin McGrone  
Jermy McKinzie



Alexis McMillan  
Brandi McSwain  
Leslee McSwain  
Kiara Means  
James Medwetz  
Kylie Meeker  
Yolanda Meza  
Patricia Meza-Delatorre



Paschal Miller Jr.  
Jalen Minor  
Jessica Mireles  
Dante Mister  
Alex Mojica  
Marissa Mongold  
Cecily Moore  
Dariyan Morris



Donte Morris  
Andre Moton  
Naim Muhammad  
Brittany Mulligan  
Alex Murga  
Martell Murphy  
Kelly Nangin  
Guadalupe Navarro



Julian Neal  
Ryan Negrelli  
Nathan Negron  
Jovan Nelson  
Tayllor Nevarez  
Amanda Jo Nevitt  
Paige Nichols  
Rebeca Nichols







Elizabeth Nieves  
Tatiana Nixon  
Alissia Norwood  
Levar Norwood  
Michael Norwood  
Janay Olague  
Jamal Oliver  
Nicholas Oman

Natalia Ooms  
Breanna Outlar  
Oshea Owens  
Jamard Owens Jr.  
Naudia O'Neal  
George Papamihalakis  
Jacob Pardus  
Sheridan Parker

Joshua Parker-Clark  
Spencer Patterson  
Darian Patton  
Deanthony Patton  
Gershon Patton  
Rebecca Paul  
Christian Pearson  
Mackenzie Pearson

Julian Pena  
Anjelica Peppers  
Alejandro Perez  
Luis Perez  
William Perry  
Tyler Person  
Aericley Peterson  
Alexia Peterson

Jerrell Peterson  
Tierney Peterson  
Jordan Phillips  
Kara Phillips  
Taylor Pierce  
Xavier Pitts  
Raymond Pionti  
Cleven Poe Jr.

Kendra Polk  
Dante Pollard  
Jaelynn Porter  
Simone Portis  
Alexis Powell  
Ariel Powell  
Venesha Powell  
Jelani Pruitt

James Pullins  
David Purcell  
Charles Pyatt  
Paul Quinn  
Dayshon Rainey  
Michael Ramey Jr.  
Jamel Abdul Rasheed  
Jacob Raspopovich

Jordan Reaves  
Jocelyn Recio  
Khari Reed  
Michael Reed  
Steven Reed  
Unique Reed  
Jhani Reid  
Micah Reynolds

Kenyatta Richards  
Lacey Richards  
Allayah Richardson  
Marshay Richmond  
Regan Rios  
Amber Ritchie  
Cristian Rivera  
Louis Robb



James Roberts  
Jordan Robertson  
Selena Robertson  
Aleigha Robinson  
Briana Robinson  
Dominique Robinson  
Dyonta Robinson  
Endiah Robinson

Jarrett Robinson  
Jasmine Robinson  
Tatyanna Robinson  
Emily Rocha  
Sarah Rochefort  
Nathan Rodriguez  
Eugene Rogers  
Marquise Rogers

Maxlin Rolland  
Alexandria Romanow  
Jenna Rose  
Julie Ross  
Ankobia Ruth  
Keith Sadural  
Roman Salas  
Avery Sameshima

Stephanie Samuels  
Alejandro Sanchez  
Kaelin Sanchez  
Luisalfonso Sanchez  
Sydney Sanchez  
Jillian Sandefur  
D'Anthony Sanders  
Breanna Saxinger

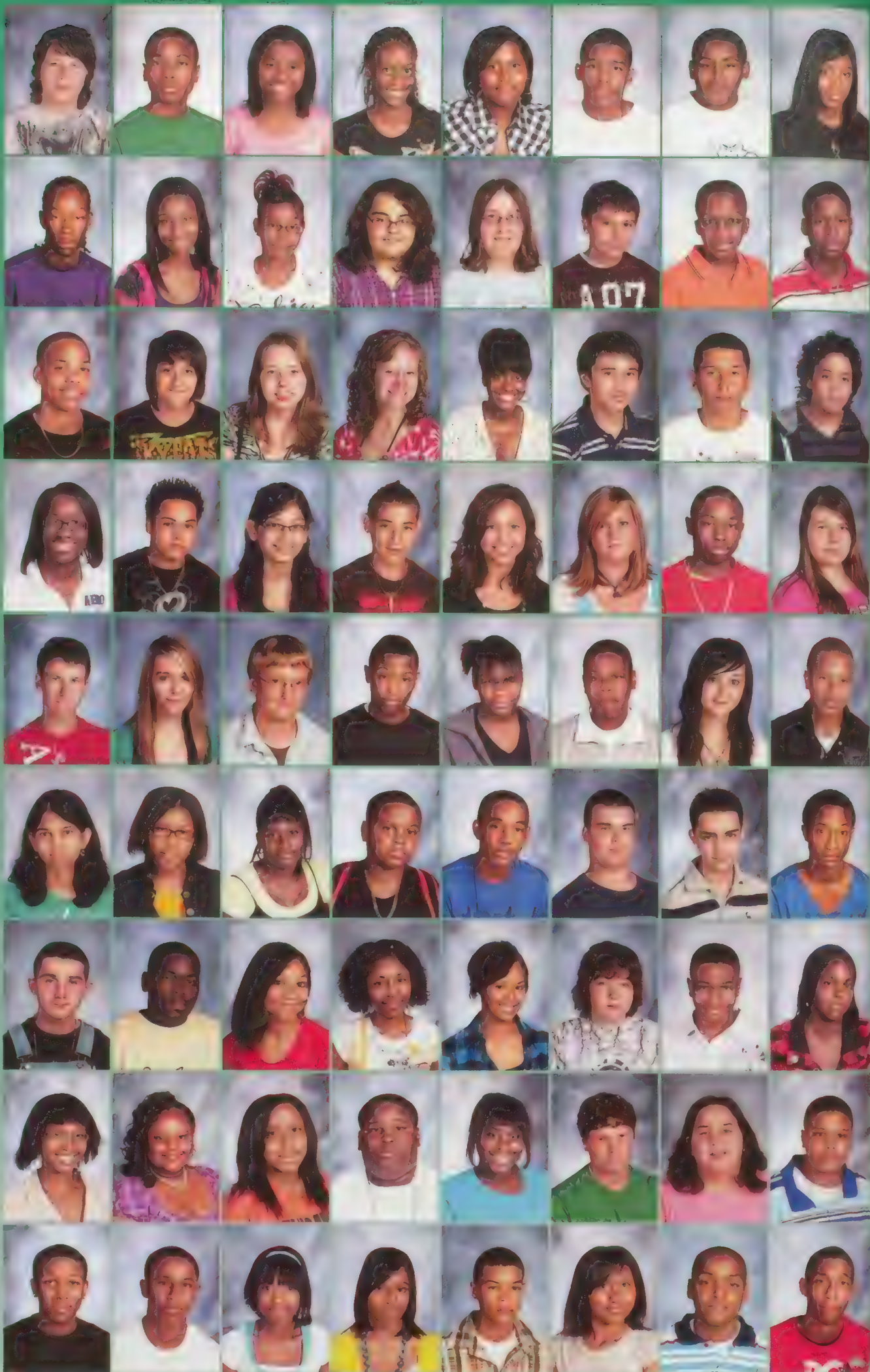
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James Schilling  
Bernard Scott  
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Kevin Semmes Jr.  
Helen Serrato  
Dariel Sewell

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Ashanti Sharpe  
Imani Shelby  
Timothy Shelton  
Timothy Shelton Jr.  
Adam Sherwinski  
Pavlo Shyrovkov  
Michael Simpson

Eric Slade Jr.  
Adonis Smith  
Alyssa Smith  
Amber Smith  
Chardaray Smith  
Derick Smith  
Isaiah Smith  
Lasier Smith

Saleah Smith  
Shanae Smith  
Tiaquena Smith  
William Smith  
Dojshana Smith-Washington  
Matthew Sobczak  
Samantha Sorbello  
Marquise Spencer

Rashad Standfield  
Jalynn Starks  
Takeira Starks  
Chryshana Steele  
Victor Stephens  
Leanna Steverson  
Dale Stewart  
Tyree Stewart







LaShatee Strickland  
Amber Sturdivant  
Jacob Styx  
Christopher Sumichrast  
Alexander Swierc  
Jacob Swierc  
Zoran Talley  
Ashelia Taylor

Carlos Taylor  
Cordell Taylor  
Devin Taylor  
Leniyah Taylor  
Marissa Taylor  
Don Taylor Jr.  
David Teamer  
Darien Teets

Bruce Thomas  
Darreon Thomas  
Jeremiah Thomas  
Kielend Thomas  
LaShata Thomas  
Asha Thompson  
Antoinette Thurmond  
Shannon Thurson

Raven Tibbs  
Lauren Tillman  
Quinten Tolar  
Shyora Tolbert  
Joseph Traina  
Jeffery Travis  
Kayla Trueblood  
Domonick Tucker

Jordan Turley  
Kientaye Turnipseed  
Kayla Tyson  
Kathryne Van Nortwick  
Matthew VanVleet  
Tierra Vann  
Destiny Vara  
Jessica Vasquez

Devante Vaughn  
Deven Vaughn  
Treyon Vaulx  
Tiara Veasy  
Andres Vega  
Miranda Vega  
Deanna Venzke  
David Venzke Jr.

Avianna Villarreal  
Hannah Villarreal  
Deshay Vinson  
Megan Vinson  
Andre Walker  
Chamere Walker  
Kashay Wallace  
Tavares Wallace

Darrell Walls  
Allena Walton  
Ashley Ward  
Bianca Ward  
Kendall Warfield  
Matthew Warren  
Dionne Washington  
Kyle Washington

Ronald Washington  
Brittani Watson  
Clarence Watson  
Valerie Watson  
Jasmine Watts  
Jarrett Weathersby  
Dennis Weber II  
Devin Westbrooks



Errol White Jr.  
Kevin Wilkerson  
Aliyah Williams  
Brendan Williams  
Daquan Williams  
India Janae Williams  
India Katelyn Williams

Justice Williams  
Lawren Williams  
Trevon Williams  
Roland Williams IV  
Gregory Williams Jr.  
Jerrean Williamson  
Gabrielle Williford  
Breyanna Wilson

Brooke Wilson  
Isaiah Wilson  
Jazzmyn Wilson  
Keri Wilson  
Santanika Wilson  
Lesley Winston  
Wesley Winston  
Davonna Witherspoon

Dionna Witherspoon  
Joseph Witkowski  
Ashley Witt  
Alexandra Woodberry  
Kevin Woodfork  
Sterling Woods  
Karley Woodson  
Keenan Wright

Kelli Wright  
Racine Wynn  
Destiny Yoder  
Rebecca Yugo

# WHO'S YOUR CRUSH?



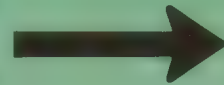
Freshman Ashley Armstrong



Senior Christian Matthews



Freshman Ryan Lewis



Senior James Posey



Freshman Dartanian Holland



Senior Chia'ya Eddie



Freshman Adeyinka Fashawe



Senior Mariah Dennis





# WHAT'S YOUR excuse?

Kyle Boyd



"I once called the school and pretended to be my parent, and told them I had a family emergency so I could get out of school."

Madison Cofield



"See what happened was I was late because my shoe strings were tangled so I took them out and re-laced my shoes."

"I had to baby-sit my fish."



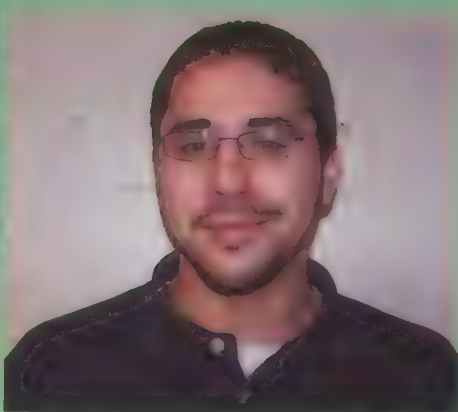
Messay Crawford-Taylor

"My sister cut my hand off."



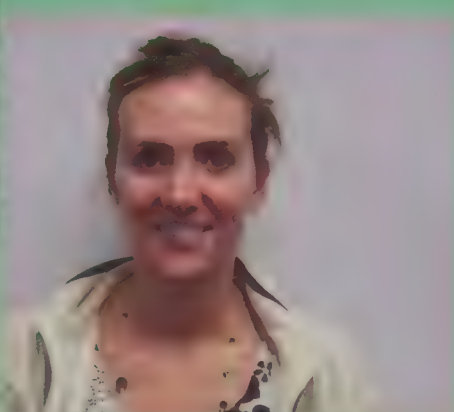
Rudy Sanchez

TEACHER  
Mr. Dan Schoon



"A student told me that his baby sister ate his homework."

TEACHER  
Mrs. Rachel Sonnenberg



"A student told me he could not turn in his term paper because he had the wrong jump drive. He said his jump drive got mixed up with his friend's, and his friend ended up with the one with the term paper on it while his had music."

"A 2003 graduate told us she missed school because a wild turkey crashed through her windshield while she was driving and hit her father. She said she and her mom had to drive her dad to the hospital all the way in Wisconsin."



Mrs. Marilyn Thien

SECRETARIES  
Mrs. Cheryl Orsery &

"I was late for class because I lost my shoes. I was in class with my shoes off, and another student took them as a joke. I had to walk around barefoot and find my shoes."



SOPHOMORE  
Leslie Easterling



# CLASS OF 2012

Carlos Aaron  
Danielle Abel  
Sabrina Abrams  
Ana Adame  
Ashley Ahlborn  
Dominic Alderson  
Saleh Algahmi  
Alicia Allen



Jamal Allen  
Dion'Dra Anderson  
Nichole Anderson  
Shakir Anderson  
Davina Anthony  
Thomas Anthony IV  
Mansoor Ariffee  
April Ashe



Jose Avalos  
Rico Ayala  
Celeste Babilonia  
Nicholas Badali  
Jacob Bahena  
April Bailey  
Charesa Baker  
Rosalyn Baker



Chardonnay Balkcom  
Richard Balkcom  
Amanda Banashak  
Tailyr Barker  
Zachary Barnack  
Sarah Barnard  
Myles Barnes IV  
Danae Baskin



Brittney Bass  
Abel Bedolla  
Arturo Bedolla  
Aaron Bennett  
Peter Berlanga  
Kourtney Berry  
Jucila Best  
Jacob Bingaman



Lauren Blackwell  
Joshua Blink  
Douglas Boender  
A-Kea Briner  
Aisha Briner  
Emily Britton  
Gabriel Britton  
Adam Brodie



Gregory Philip Brousseau  
Aisha Janeé Brown  
Aisha Lynn Brown  
Allyiah Brown  
Darrail Brown  
Erricka Brown  
Nia Brown  
Bruce Brown Jr.



Bria Brumfield  
Allisa Bryant  
Darren Bryant Jr.  
Stephen Buckrop  
Laquisha Buford  
Peter Bult  
Jeanette Burbage  
Jennayi Burden







Jordan Burton  
 Ayana Butler  
 Iyana Butler  
 James Butler  
 Adrienne Butts  
 Lisette Cabrera  
 Federico Calderon

Rodolfo Camarena Jr.  
 Jaired Campbell  
 Mellisa Carbajal  
 Jeanpierre Cardenas  
 Jordan Carey  
 Paul Carey  
 Lauren Carniello  
 Aurielle Carson

Taylor Carter  
 Joshua Cervantez  
 Alonzo Charles  
 Ontario Childs Jr.  
 Habiba Choudhry  
 Nakia Clark  
 Khari Coker  
 Keonna Colbert

Jerel Cole  
 Kacey Cole  
 Samuel Coleman  
 Dallas Coleman Jr.  
 Sierra Collier  
 Dana Collins  
 Shantehra Collins  
 Talia Constant

Rashawn Conwell  
 Colin Cook  
 Leah Cook  
 Indya Cooke  
 Dyanmond Cooper  
 Larry Cooper  
 Leeah Cooper  
 Mellaka Coops

Tyler Core  
 Jacqueline Coria  
 Alyssa Cotillier  
 Paris Courtney  
 Devaughn Cox  
 Dylan Crane  
 Tyran Crawford  
 Breawna Crowder

Brandon Culver  
 Jamie Cupid  
 Anthony Curtis  
 Kaitlyn Cygan  
 Conrad Czosnyka  
 Penny Czosnyka  
 Destiny Dalton  
 John Dates Jr.

Christopher Davis  
 Dean Davis  
 Desiree Davis  
 Adore Dean  
 Brianna Decausemaker  
 Michael Devany  
 Daniel Diaz  
 Javac Diaz

Megan Dicken  
 Michael Dicken  
 Melvin Dickinson Jr.  
 Ramona Dillon  
 Anthony Disco  
 Alexandra Domoras  
 Olshianna Doss  
 Joseph Drapeau



Shaxavier Drayton  
Shawn Dwyer  
Holland Earl  
Leslie Easterling  
Brionna Eastland  
Alexis Edwards  
Aries Edwards  
Melissa Eggleston



Jasmine Ervin  
Dane Ezernack  
Michael Farmer  
Gerardo Flores  
Jah'Rome Fogle  
Antonio Foley  
Jalen Foster  
Brianna Fotinos



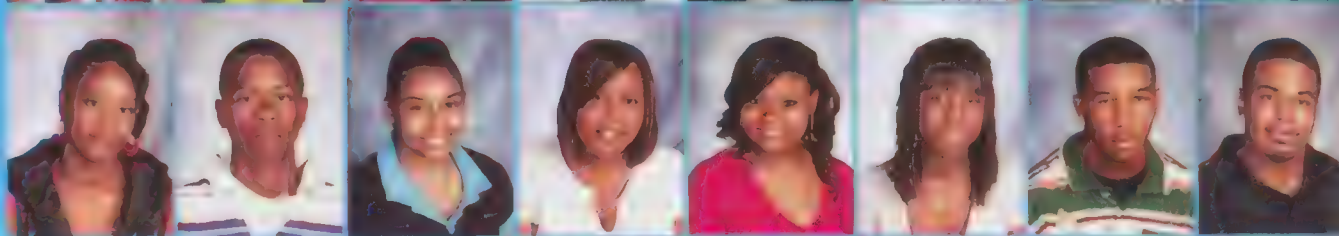
Kyair Frye  
Antoinette Galliday  
Jade Galvan  
Eliseo Gamino  
Abraham Garcia  
Antonio Garcia  
Crystal Garcia  
John Garreffa



Andrea Garza  
Shintinaa Gaston  
Garett Gault  
Jacob Gibson  
Sean Gibson  
Tiarra Glenn  
Jose Gonzalez  
Elbryn Goode



Brittany Grady  
Earl Grady  
Shavon Graham  
Kenyah Grant  
Kayla Greene  
Latrice Greenwood  
Cameron Grundy



Kaitlin Grzybowski  
Edgar Guadarrama  
Samuel Gubitza  
Morgan Gunn  
Christopher Ha  
Bennett Hackett  
Ashley Hall-Relf  
Charles Hammerstein



Victoria Hanthorn  
Nate Hardin  
Tiara Hardy  
Aaliyah Harmon  
Mathew Harms  
Brent Harris  
Chasity Harris  
Jason Harris



Mariah Harris  
Melody Harris  
Michael Harris  
Mychal Harris  
Myeisha Harris  
Kassidi Harris-Kendrick  
Latonya Harrison  
Cymeburhlea Hayes



Victoria Henderson  
Shalondrea Henry  
Isabel Hernandez  
Frederick Heth III  
Demetrice Hicks  
Briana Higareda  
Loreal Hill  
Raven Hobson







Hailey Holden  
Michael Holden  
Raven Hope  
Sherese Hopson  
Ashlan Howard  
Logan Hubbard

Marquis Hudson  
Christopher Hughes  
Daniel Humes  
Montrel Humphrey  
Marchon Hunter  
William Isabell  
Adel Issa  
Andre Jackson

Brinesha Jackson  
Charizma Jackson  
Derryck Jackson  
Ebony Jackson  
Corey Jacobs  
Robin Jakich  
Jacob Jara  
Francis Jefferson

Daniel Jimenez  
Frances Jimenez  
Domynek Johnson  
Freedom Johnson  
Kiara Johnson  
Paul Johnson  
Sir-James Joiner III  
Brittany Jones

Cashmere Jones  
Edward Jones  
Jacquelyn Jones  
Jasmine Jones  
Jazmin Jones  
Michael Jones  
Phashawnty Joseph  
Diamond Keller

Paris Kelsey  
Tyler Kepchar  
Tyshawn Kidd  
Jasmine King  
Tyeasha Kinsey  
Lauren Kiser  
Monika Knight  
Whitney Knisley

Jared Knox  
Justin Koenemann  
Nathan Koenemann  
Katherine Kolbert  
Morgan Lamb  
Spree Lang  
Jacob Larson  
Carley Laughhead

Gina Lee  
Joseph Lee  
Kayla Lee  
Ledaria Lee  
Tiffany Lee  
Jordyn Lewis  
Jasmine Liggins  
Malcolm Lindsay

Daniel Lipp  
Maurisha Lord  
Nahkayla Loveless  
Myeisia Lucas  
Anthony Luckett  
Levi Lungaro  
Jaylen Lynch  
Shantell Lyons



Jacob Madera  
 Samantha Mahone  
 Bianca Marquez  
 Robert Marshall  
 Prince Marshall Jr.  
 Dora Martin-Ellison



Cirila Martinez  
 Daniel Martinez Jr.  
 Ashley Massie  
 Kylie Massie  
 Alejandra Mata  
 Natieka Mathews  
 Leonard Mathews II  
 Tiffany Mays



Mercedes McClendon  
 Nakel McClinton  
 Brandon McCotry  
 Christopher McCoy  
 Jasmine McCoy  
 Deafricka McDaniel  
 Brandon McDonald  
 Charles McGee



Jeremiah McAfee  
 Antonio McClay  
 Kevin Meacham  
 Kayleen Mendoza  
 Belia Mercado  
 Cesar Mercado Jr.  
 Tiyasha Millender  
 Darryl Miller



Jasmyne Miller  
 Kristina Miller  
 Paige Miller  
 Shayeveon Miller  
 Mackenzie Milon  
 Rodney Mitchell Jr.  
 Sasha Morales  
 Brad Morris



Jalisa Mosley  
 John Mosley  
 Kyle Muiser  
 Brei Murphy  
 Kathleen Murphy  
 Raveen Murray  
 Brandon Neal  
 Joyce Negron



Kendall Nelson  
 Mekyla Nelson  
 Kandice Nicholson  
 Michael Nickson  
 Stephen Nixon  
 Amanda Noojin  
 Travis Norman  
 John Nosich



Alyssa Nymeyer  
 Brandon Odom  
 Folahanmi Oduwaye  
 Joshua Oliver  
 Sarah Onohan  
 Leticia Ontiveros  
 Graciela Ortiz  
 Selenia Otano



Donneisha Owens  
 Luis Ozuna  
 Luis Padilla  
 Anthony Palm  
 Briddney Palm  
 Pauline Panayi  
 Robert Parson  
 Ravikumar Patel







Mia Patikas  
Lekisha Patterson  
Joseph Patton  
Jasmine Peacock  
Darryl Peppers  
Moises Perez

David Perkins  
Donovan Phillips  
Charleston Pickett  
Caleb Pirtle  
Anthony Pitts Jr.  
Andrew Porter  
Ashley Powell  
Aurielle Powell

Brittney Powell  
Tasja Protho  
Eboney Pulliam  
Diamond Pullins  
Crystal Quintero  
Jordan Ramos  
Shikeia Randolph  
Amber Ratcliff

Airius Reed  
Albert Reed  
Andrea Reed  
Devon Reed  
D'Andre Reed  
Jessica Reed  
Samuel Reed  
Ashley Reynolds

Michael Rhoades  
Joshua Riley  
Lawrence Riley  
Kenneth Riley Jr.  
Melissa Rivera  
Saul Rivera  
Chazz Roberts  
Zachary Roberts

Adrian Robinson  
Cameron Robinson  
Lo'real Robinson  
Miesha Robinson  
Rasheeda Robinson  
TaChina Robinson  
Braiyan Rodriguez  
David Rodriguez

Dominic Rodriguez-Mille  
Kindall Rollins  
Alyssa Ross  
Frank Ruiz  
Tatiana Ruiz  
Ashley Russell  
Brooklyn Russell  
Luqmann Ruth

Raven Saavedra  
Nikko Sadural  
Yaritza Saenz  
Lexus Saez  
Caleb Sanchez  
Myriam Sanchez  
Rudolph Sanchez IV  
Zachary Sandefur

Docarri Savage  
Stormie Schilling  
Tyler Schilling  
Dennis Scott  
Tyler Scott  
Raven Seals  
Amon Searcy  
Edward Seay Jr.



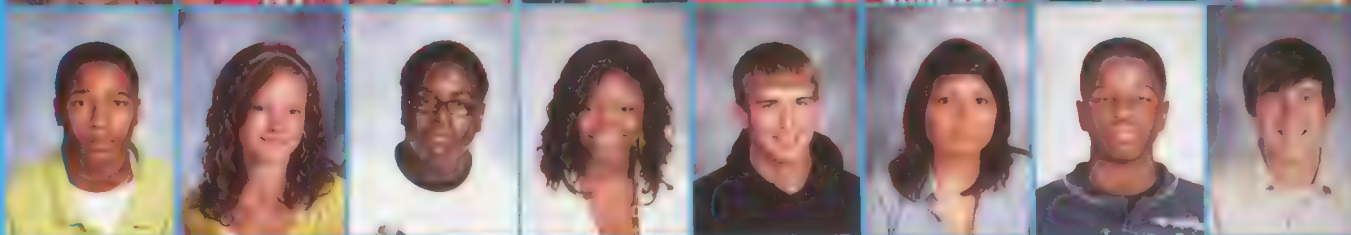
Adam Serwacki  
Tyler Shockey  
Deborah Shoulder  
Jalen Sievers  
Averyl Sims  
Brishana Sims  
Cortez Sims  
Jabria Sistrunk



Amber Smith  
Briana Smith  
Chaunice Smith  
Danielle Smith  
Inesha Smith  
Korey Smith  
Tachina Smith  
Raven Snelling



Quanzell Snowden  
Katelynn Sobieski  
Brandon Spencer  
Patricia Spikes  
Ian Stacks  
Miranda Stewart  
Nigel Stewart  
Jeremy Stovall



Stevie Strom  
Claudia Strong  
Jahmia Sutherland  
Daniel Tarulis  
Alexis Taylor  
India Taylor  
Joy Taylor  
Lashawnta Taylor



Shawndre Taylor  
Teannah Taylor  
Jazmyn Thomas  
Jordan Thomas  
Kurledia Thomas  
Channon Thomas II  
Terrence Thomas Jr.  
Brianna Thompson



Lu'Tonn Thompson  
Joshua Thormann  
Daryl Toneff  
Diamond Toney  
Reginia Torres  
Alexis Traylor  
Anthony Turman  
Christopher Turner



Mercedes Turner  
Rovon Turner  
Trent Turner  
Brittney Upshaw  
Brittany Vaughn  
Alicia Vaulx  
Brandon Vlastic  
Joshua Von Buelow



Brian Walker  
Briana Walker  
Chaloni Walker  
Joshua Walker  
Kenneth Walsh  
Morgan Walton  
Dana Warren  
Jaelah Washington



Jasmine Washington  
Kayla Washington  
Kiajuana Washington  
Antonio Watkins  
Brittany Watkins-Thigpen  
Breyon Watson  
Corey Weatherspoon  
Adrian Weaver







Arriana West  
DeQuan West  
Michael Whelan  
Erik White  
Paris White  
Wayne Whitmer

Kent Whitt Jr.  
Lenzie Wilkins  
Andrew Williams  
Ashley Williams  
Breanna Williams  
Christian Williams  
Danera Williams  
Davonte Williams

Donicqua Williams  
Ryan Williams  
T'keyh Williams  
Alva Wilson  
Danielle Winburn  
Shermika Winston  
Ashley Witkowski  
Brandi Wolak

Floyd Woods  
Kourtney Woods  
Taylor Worrell  
Brandon Wright  
Kaylene Wright  
Jennifer Yanez  
Jonathan Yanez  
Keith Yockey


Brandon Young  
Lashona Young

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"Do you believe in love at first sight or should I come around again?"

Senior Colin Senafer



Jovan: Hey girl, how you doin'?


Joe: Sorry, I have a boyfriend.

Jovan: I have a goldfish.

Joe: What?


Jovan: Well I thought we were talking about things that don't matter.

Seniors Jovan Trenoski and Joseph Sepulveda



"Your father must be a thief because he stole the stars out of the sky and put them in your eyes."


Senior Naudia Bradley



"If my heart was a house, you'd be home already."

Senior Ajay Patel

"Are you a parking ticket because you've got fine written all over you?"



Senior Juan Hernandez



# CLASS OF 2011

Jonathan Ane  
Tashé Abrams  
Brandi Adams  
Jenniyne Adams  
Justyn Adams  
Aquasha Alexander  
Dontrell Allen  
Tierra Allen



Michael Ambrose  
Caitlynn Anderson  
Anthony Angotti  
Andrew Appleton  
Roy Arambula  
Victor Arellano  
Amondo Arriaga



Daniel Armstrong  
Arnold Arriaga  
Alyson Austin  
Javier Avalos  
Inecia Ayers  
Eleny Babilonia  
Brittany Bailey  
Derek Bailey



Floyd Bailey  
Samantha Bailey  
Shaquille Bailey  
Malorie Baker  
Samantha Balash  
Tayor Bail  
Benjamin Banks  
Maria Barajas



Monae Barnett  
Ariel Barnslater  
Laryssa Barrera  
Antonio Bates  
Michelle Battle  
Ajahn Batty  
Sabrina Beach  
Keshala Beasley



Gabrielle Bell  
Ana Bellman  
Erin Bielak  
Nicole Blas  
Darren Blaylock  
Joseph Blockson  
Valerie Bly  
Kelsie Boone



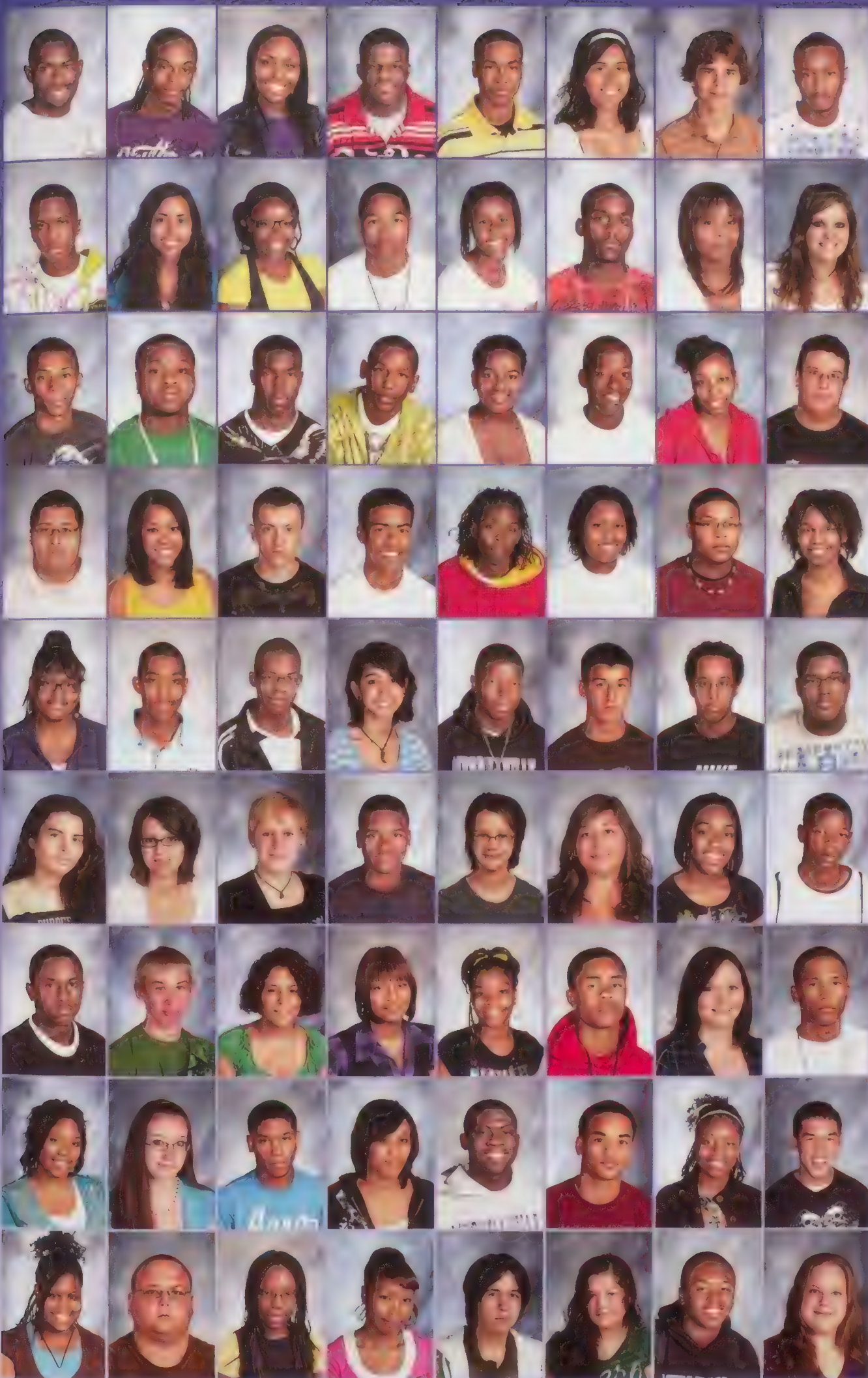
Douglas Boskamp  
Jacob Boyd  
Lachapelle Bradley  
Janay Bray  
Jasmin Brooks  
Rashonda Brooks  
Heather Brown  
Mycasha Brown



Ryan Brown  
Tyrone Brown  
Zerrick Brown  
Osha Brownlee  
Tanisha Buford  
Clyde Byrd III  
Jacob Caddick  
Ashanti Caldwell







Julius Cameron  
Blair Campbell  
Chelsea Campbell  
Wilfred Campbell  
Jerrick Cannon  
Kevin Caruana  
Shaquille Cauley

Victor Chambliss  
Kelli Chavez  
Brandon Clark  
Jasmine Clark  
Laquon Clark  
Tina Clark  
Kimberly Climack

Russell Crabb  
Emanuel Contreras  
Rahim Conwell  
Jerron Cooke  
Hirut Crawford-Taylor  
Messay Crawford-Taylor  
Breshawna Crowder  
Paul Crowley

Antonio Cuahuzo  
Anita Cuevas  
John Cuevas  
Jory Cunningham  
Ronald Currie Jr.  
Ka'Kisha Daniel  
Kyle Daniels  
Kelsey Danzy

Jamie Davis  
Ken Davis  
Sterling Day  
Melissa Delgado  
Carlos Dickerson Jr.  
Anthony Digangi  
Rashid Dika  
Davonte Dillard

Nevena Djurdjevic  
Meredith Dobes  
Kalie Domikaitis  
Robert Dominick-Warren  
Sarah Dora  
Daniella Douglas  
Demetria Downing  
Charles Downs

Jovan Dunlap  
Francis Dusik  
Alexis Earl  
Diamond Eaton  
Kortney Eaton  
Ashton Edwards  
Brittany Elam  
Cameron Ellis

Chelsea Ellis  
Erika Erskine  
Lawrence Evans  
Beverly Farmer-French  
Olatokunbo Fashawe  
Matthew Fayson  
Maisha Feagin  
Nicholas Feliciano

Stephanie Ferrell  
Zachary Fidler  
Raven Finch  
Annisia Fitzpatrick  
Matthew Flores  
Salina Flores  
Jonathan Floyd  
Eva Foley



Isis Franklin  
 Anthonie Frederick  
 Christian Frink  
 Robert Gabric Jr.  
 Megan Galarza  
 Joseph Garcia  
 Monte Cate

Destiny Gensel  
 Tierra Gilbert  
 Ericka Gilliam  
 Michael Gist  
 Lavontecia Gist  
 Rasheed Owens  
 Bruce Gonzalez  
 Darien Gornick

Gloria Graham  
 Jeremy Graham  
 Imari Green  
 Antoine Gregory Jr.  
 Andrew Gresham  
 Jasmin Griffin  
 Briana Hackett  
 Brandon Hall

Brittany Hall  
 William Hall  
 Joshua Hammonds  
 Tiara Hannan  
 Kalliopi Haramantas  
 Clifton Harmon III  
 Sydney Harold  
 Raevyn Harper

Brandon Harris  
 Dajah Harris  
 Tyler Harris  
 Maurice Harris Jr.  
 Dylan Harrison  
 Vanessa Harwood  
 Lavante Hawkins  
 Philip Hays

Lakarra Hendricks  
 Richard Henrikson  
 Kevin Henry II  
 Samantha Hertl  
 Shelby Hicks  
 Chandler Hill  
 Malcolm Hinson  
 Joshua Hogan

Shaunice Holbrook  
 Darrius Holland  
 Courtney Hollingsworth  
 Mitchell Holman  
 Angela Hopkins  
 Azari Hopson  
 Tyler Houser  
 Davonte Howard

Dean Hughes  
 Christopher Huley  
 Stephanie Husek  
 Aaron Hutchinson  
 Mofoluwaso Ibikunle-Salami  
 Ericiona Jackson  
 Jamaal Jackson  
 Arthur Jacobs

Ashley Jamerson  
 Alyssa James  
 Kiara James  
 Renitia James  
 Taylor James  
 Alisha Jenkins  
 Angelique Jernigan  
 Aaron Johnson







Tyree Johnson  
Michael Joiner Jr.  
Jeremiah Jones  
Glenn Jones Jr.  
David Jordan  
Andrew Kapitan  
Elen Kazun  
Maurice Kelly Jr.  
Clay Kendera  
Reginald Kennebrew Jr.

Anthony Kidd  
Rebekkah Kimani  
Marvin Kimbrough  
Andrew King  
Anthony King  
Darien King  
Abigail Kirkpatrick  
Christopher Knight  
Kameron Knight  
Sara Koeppel  
Jacob Kopf  
Michael Koulianos  
Candice Lambert  
Lauren Lambert  
Eric Lara  
Angela Ledesma

Latasha Lee  
Shakiah Lee  
Charlishea Leeks  
Anna Leventis  
Jerin Lloyd  
Stephanie Lobody  
Jelani Louis  
Leroy Love

Jessica Lowery  
Alexander Luna  
Christopher Mabone  
Brittani Madison  
Melanie Manning  
Melvin Manning Jr.  
Antawon Marshall Jr.  
Kendrell Martin

Morgan Martin  
Nikkisha Martin  
Julian Martinez  
Alexander Matthews  
Reaunna Maxie  
Rodrick May  
Mya Mayfield  
Bradley Mayo

Ariana McDaniel  
Nichole McFarland  
Monique McMillian  
Markell McMurray  
Osvaldo Meza  
Heather Mihal  
Marina Miljus  
Stephanie Miller



William Minard  
 Irving Moreno  
 Marchon Moss  
 Malik Muhammad  
 Cody Munroe  
 Kenjiro Nangin

Matthew Neal  
 Lea Neligan  
 Viviana Nevarez  
 Joshua Nevins-Frey  
 Shelby Newell  
 Alexandria Norton  
 Marissa Novak  
 Loren O'Neal

Kewon O'Leary  
 James Ooms Jr.  
 Serena Ornelas  
 Morgan Orosz  
 Jasmine Ortiz  
 Melanie Ortiz  
 Mallory Parker  
 Marcha Parker

Payton Parker  
 Cody Parkhurst  
 Ashley Perez  
 Danielle Perry  
 Joshua Perry  
 Michal Perry  
 Autry Phillips  
 Kaitlyn Phillips

Tatiana Phillips  
 Denzel Pierce  
 Gabriel Pineda  
 Rosalind Pirtle  
 Natasha Poellnitz  
 Daniel Policchio  
 Gabriela Ponce  
 Bryanna Pope

Jenee Porter  
 Shaniqua Porter  
 Bianca Portis  
 Mariah Portis  
 Andrew Posey  
 Christopher Powell  
 Deion Powell  
 Ashayna Price

Shaina Pullum  
 Breann Pulpus  
 Evangelos Quanstrom  
 Alex Quijano  
 Juan Ramos Jr.  
 Zachary Raspopovich  
 Anton Redmon Jr.  
 Kyle Reed

Edward Reese  
 Allysa Reyes  
 Jesse Reyes  
 Mellysa Reyes  
 Angela Reynolds  
 Arthur Richards  
 Kailan Richards  
 Mariah Richardson

Brett Riley  
 Christian Rios  
 Victor Rios  
 Kassandra Rivera  
 Melissa Rivera  
 Tanya Riveron  
 Jamie Roberts  
 Charles Robinson







Jaquice Robinson

Robert Robinson  
Reginald Robinson Jr.  
Jose Rodriguez  
Denissa Rogers-Giles

Audrey Rojas  
Kalan Rollins  
Andre Ross  
Jill Ross  
Skylar Rothgeb  
Jarien Rowe  
Kourtney Royster  
Tia Rucker

Xavier R. 2  
Bryana R. 2  
Liara Russell  
Kelsey Sajdera  
Obdulia Salazar  
Lindsay Sanchez  
Attallah Sanders  
Evan Sandifer

Matthew Saxinger  
Kyle Schroeder  
Nicholas Schuffert  
Charity Scollon  
Angela Scott  
Deanna Scott  
Tommy Sears  
Erin Segrest

Alejandro Serrano  
David Serrato  
Denzel Shaw  
Brandon Shea  
Stacey Shotwell  
Joshua Shoulder  
Jillian Simmons  
Rayshaun Simpson

Alexandria Sims  
Arlen Sims  
Joshua Sims  
Maximilian Skinner  
Matthew Smiley  
Adriana Smith  
Brandon Smith  
Cameron Smith

Charles Smith  
Darrius Smith  
Eranzie Smith  
Raven Smith  
Richard Smith  
Taylor Smith  
Victoria Smith  
Cheryl Smoot

Raymond Snelling Jr.  
Angelica Spaw  
Amber Spear  
Robert Spear III  
Jeremiah Stegall  
Bianca Stewart  
Deandre Stewart  
Marissa Stewart

Christopher Stojanovski  
Ryan Streck  
Jason Strimbu  
Kyle Strom  
Damon Strong  
Shakelah Strong  
Melanee Stubbs  
Jasmine Suggs



Alysia Surney  
Ana Tafoya  
Kimberly Tapper  
Jose Taylor  
Terry Taylor  
Derek Taylor Jr.  
Ronte Terrell



Michael Thieling  
Damon Thomas  
Raymond Thomas  
Vladimir Thomas  
Anisha Thompson  
Taylor Thornley  
Brittany Thurson  
Devyn Tillotson



Airron Timmons  
Marleen Tirado  
Charles Tomaszewski  
Samantha Tomb  
Brian Toney  
Joshua Toth  
Leon Tra Kowsk  
Colby Tramble



Mariah Trigg  
Rodney Trigg II  
Richard Trotter  
James Tucker Jr.  
Matthew Tuohy  
Makita Turner  
Mariah Turner  
Orlando Turner Jr.



Rodney Turner Jr.  
Justine Upchurch  
Avery Ursery  
Brandon Uruzquieta  
Katelynn Usher  
Erika Valladares  
Allison Varela  
Rafael Vasquez



Victoria Verduzco  
Ronae Vickerstaff  
Jeremy Villarreal  
Chauncey Walker  
Deshjue Walker  
Kara Walker  
Rachel Walton  
Dakin Warfield



Natalie Warren  
Kelsey Washburn  
Kentrell Washington  
Donisha Webster  
Hannah Webster  
Elizabeth Weiss  
Rashad Welch  
Maurika Wesley



Carlshia Wheatley  
Elizabeth Whelan  
Kenshell Whisby  
Brechey White  
Raven White  
Alexis Wiggins  
Kayla Wiggins  
Lorien Wilkins



Bryce Williams  
Devante Williams  
Devion Williams  
Fantasia Williams  
Kenosha Williams  
Mary Williams  
Tekeia Williams  
Tianna Williams







Vanetta Williams  
Kendrick Williams Jr.  
Robin Williamson  
Dallas Wilson  
Dirrious Wilson  
Queonte Wilson  
Ryan Wilson  
Lunden Wise

Rachel Withers  
Creona Woodson  
Alexx Wright  
Devante Wright  
Iresha Wright  
James Wright  
Kenneth Wright  
Jaimee Yocum

April Yates  
Kaitlyn Yockey  
Hope Yocum  
Terrence Yon  
Dayna Young  
Shaun Young  
Jennifer Zawada  
Patricia Zimmerman

# CameraSHY students

## Class OF 2013

Ebony Allen  
Darion Basmore  
Jermey Brown  
Gabriel Carter  
Lee Cooper  
Briana Cox  
Ronald Edwards II  
Kwanisha Freeman  
Ashley Gray  
Jonna Griggs  
Antionette Harris  
Reginald Hassell III

Alante Johnson  
Travis Lee  
Ryan Lewis  
Ricardo Martinez Jr.  
Sierra McKinzie  
Alexis Miller  
Jamard Owens Jr.  
Taneejah Smith  
Jacquelyn Williams  
Kelli Wright  
Kathleen Zuniga

## Class OF 2012

Chrisitan Banks  
Montae Blair  
Daniel Clark  
Anthony Cooper  
Justin Culbreath  
Jose DelReal  
Shan Gatson  
Samantha Gordon  
Harsh Goyal  
Tasia Harris  
Wyatt Hogue  
Anthony Jamka  
Jordan Johnson  
Troy Johnson  
Jamaica Laster  
Matthew Lawson  
Sharon McGee

Derrick McGuire Jr  
Leslie Mejia  
Tony Miller  
Christopher Monghan  
Amber Moore  
Tremael Morgan  
Demontae Pate  
Tony Pena  
Charleston Pickett  
Raven Summers  
Dai Thames  
Micheal Thompson  
Cornell Tucker III  
Justin Turner  
Talisha Wright

## Class OF 2011

Shanita Alexander  
Nekaybaw Anderson  
DeShaun Bates  
Bianca Blanchard  
Ja'Quan Britton  
Jon Brown  
Vidal Buenrostro  
Andrea Campos  
Ramon Candelaria  
Javac Clayton  
LaVeda Davies  
Cordney Ellis  
Anthony Elmore  
DeVonte' Farris  
Andre' Felton  
Megan Galarza  
Najvia Gaskin  
Eric Glover  
Jaqueline Gordon  
Kelvin Hagan  
Sean Hall  
Kalia Henderson  
Joshua Holdren  
Tamara Macklin

Takela Malone  
Gia'Juana Manuel  
Peter Mapp  
Che'la McClain  
Reginald McKinzie  
Janet Miodragovic  
Devon Moore  
Yasmine Norwood  
Antonio Robison  
Kalan Rollins  
Zachary Schauer  
Adrienne Scott-Harris  
Cameron Smith  
Joshua Smithers  
Camille Starks  
Arreal Terry  
Breanna Walker  
Shy Ward  
Brittany Ware  
Elizabeth Weiss  
Queonte Wilson  
Christopher Youngblood



*Pauline Laorden photo*



*Seniors Julie Hays, Nicholas Townes, Rachel Mendez, Michael McNeil, Catherine Gamino and Zachary Forsell*



# CHANGE THE world

we remember. All the times we had together. And whatever we will still be, friends forever. As we go on, we remember. All the times we had together. And as our lives change, friends forever. As we go on, we remember. All the times we had together. And as our lives change, friends forever. As we go on, we remember. All the times we had together. And as our lives change, friends forever. As we go on, we remember. All the times we had together. And as our lives change, friends forever. —“Graduation” by Vitamin C

**A**fter you have taken your finals, after you have worn your cap and gown, after you have left Merrillville High School, what do you have to show for it? The answer to this question extends deeper than a diploma and embraces the things you will cherish forever.

We are leaving this school with the knowledge that the power of the future is in our hands. We are leaving this school with the tools we need to pursue our dreams.

As Pirates, we have spent years developing unique paths in which we have insured a better world. Now is our time to go our separate ways no matter how afraid we are and no matter how unsure we are of the road we are about to travel. So take a deep breath. Remember. “If you can imagine it, you can achieve it; if you can dream it, you can become it.” —William Arthur Ward

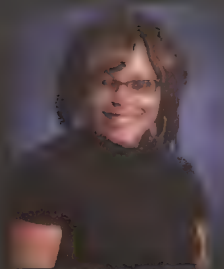




**Brian Acosta**  
Aide 12; Autoshop 11-12;  
CAD 11; German Club 11; 12



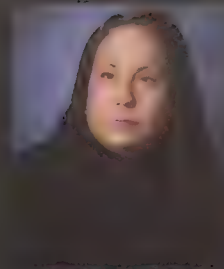
**Christina Adams**  
Aide 12; Basketball 9-10;  
Peer Helper 10;



**Debbie Adams**  
Drill Team 10; Key Club 12;  
STAND 12



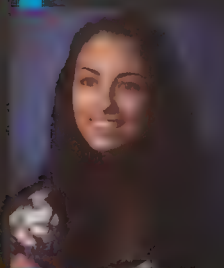
**Alexis Alamillo**  
Basketball 9;  
Varsity Choir 9; Velveteens  
10; Vocalteens 11



**Melanie Alcala**



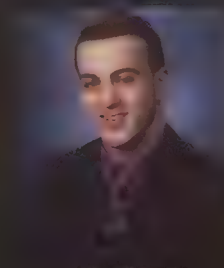
**Britney Allen**  
Key Club 12; Y.E.S. Club 12



**Gina Almaraz**



**Allen Amitoelau**



**Michael Andonovski**  
Soccer 9; Wrestling 12



**Edgar Arias**  
CAD 11-12



**Najeb Arifee**  
Superbowl 9-12; Class President  
9-12; Decathlon 9-12; Freshman  
Mentor 12; German Club 9;  
Key Club 9-12; MPAC 12; NHS 11-12;  
NHS Officer 12; Aide 11;  
Peer Mediator 9-12; Prom King 11;  
Quiz Bowl 9-12; Science Olympiad  
9-12; Spell Bowl 10-12; Student  
Government Officer 9-12; TARC 12;  
Tennis 9-12; Tennis Captain 12;  
Wrestling 11-12



**Daria Arthur**  
Cheerleading 9-12;  
Cheerleading Captain  
9-12; PNN Morning Show  
10; PNN Friday Show  
11-12; Prom Court 11; NCA  
Leadership Award 12;  
All-American Cheerleader



**Valanti Atsas**  
Football 9-12;  
Football Captain 12;  
Track 10-12; Weightlifting  
Competition 10-12;  
Weightlifting Competition  
Champion 11; Wrestling 12



**Juan Ayala**  
Marching Band 9;  
Soccer 10-12; Track 11



**Derrian Baker**



**Robert Balash**  
Band 9-12



**Kathleen Baran**  
Aide 10-12; FEA 12;  
FCCLA 11-12; FCCLA  
Officer 11-12; French Club  
10-12; NHS 12; National  
French Test 10; Peer  
Helper 12; Swimming 10-12;  
Tennis 10



**Jasmine Barfield**



**Shane Barksdale**



**Kalyn Barnes**



**Briana Barrera**



**Robert Barrix**



**Olijuwon Bates**



**Joshua Belko**





**Jaylen Bentley**

Bowling 12; Key Club 12;  
Lip Sync Winner 12; Student  
Government 12; Track 10-12;  
Track Captain 12



**Paxton Berlanga**

Baseball 11; Soccer 9-12



**Kaylin Best**

Concert Choir 10; Dance  
Team 10; Key Club 12;  
Track 9



**Ashley Bland**

Class Government 10-12;  
Dance Team 9-12; NHS  
11-12; Newspaper 9; Revue  
12; Spring Play 11; STAND  
12; Student Government  
12; Most Improved 9;  
Leadership 11; Spring Play  
Choreographer 11



**Tiara Bland**



**Darnell Bowman**



**Kyle Boyd**

Basketball 9-10; Class  
Government 9; Color  
Guard 10; Cross Country  
9; Drill Team 9-10;  
Environmental Club 12;  
Freshman Mentor 12;  
Key Club 12; STAND 12;  
Student Government 10,12;  
Track 9



**Brandon Brack**



**Naudia Bradley**

Dance Team 9-12; Dance Team  
Captain 12; Peer Mediator 9-11;  
Quill and Scroll 11-12; Revue  
10-12; Yearbook 11-12; Yearbook  
Senior Section Editor 12;  
Advertising Manager 11; Rookie  
of the Year 9; Coaches 110%  
Award 10; Most Dedicated 11;  
Dance MVP 12; All-American  
Nominee 12



**Nicole Brindley**

Aide 12; Soccer 9-12; Soccer  
Captain 12; SADD 11-12



**James Brodie**

Aide 11; French Club 9-12;  
Swimming 11; Tennis 10-11;  
Track 10



**Rukiya Brooks**



**Tanesha Brooks**

Key Club 9; Y.E.S. Club 12



**Michael Brown**

Band 9-12; Chess Club 9;  
Drumline 9-11; Football 9,11;  
Speech and Debate Team  
9; Student Government  
9-10; Track 9,12; Wrestling  
9,12; Winter Drum Line 9-10



**Monté Brown**

Football 9-12; Gary Career  
Center 12;  
Lip Sync Winner 12



**Tamera Brown**



**Colin Burke**

Aide 12; Peer Helper  
12; Swimming 9-12;  
Tennis 9-12; Tennis Captain  
12; All Conference Tennis 10



**Daniel Burns**

Football 9-12



**Devon Burton**

Aide 12; Bowling 10;



**Jazzmine Butler**

Aide 12; Band 9; Volleyball 9



**Tiyari Butler**

Track 12



**Julissa Cabrera**

Color Guard 9



**Assia Calhoun**

Key Club 12; STAND 12



**Justin Cannon**

Commons House Planning 11;  
Decathlon 11-12; STAND 9;  
Student Government 11-12





**Augusta  
Carneygee**

Drama Club 11;  
Drama Club Officer 12;  
Fall Play 11; Freshman  
Mentor 12; Orchestra  
9-10; Peer Helper 11; Peer  
Mediator 12; Thespians 12;  
Thespians Officer 12



**Michelle Cavazos**



**Dylan Certa**

Marine Biology 11-12;  
Revue 10-11; Weightlifting  
Competition 10;  
Lip Sync 9,11; ROTC  
Cyber Patriot Team and  
Commander



**Meghan  
Cervantes**

Student Government  
Officer 12



**Lakiya Chambers**



**Rah-Kimm Cherry**

Freshman Mentor 12;  
PCI Internship 12; Peer  
Mediation 10-12; Stand 11-12;  
Track 10



**Cecily Cisneros**



**Christopher Clark**



**Trevelle Clerk**



**Kimberly Coates**

Aide 11; Bowling 9-12;  
Drama Club 12; FCCLA  
11-12; French Club 9-12;  
Kids on the Block 12;  
NHS 11-12; NHS Officer  
12; National French Test  
10-12; Varsity Choir 9;  
Freshman Mentor 12



**Arlena Cobb**



**Madison Cofield**

Drama Club 9-12; Drama  
Club Officer 12; Fall Play  
9-12; Aide 11-12; PNN Friday  
Show 10-12; Revue 9,11-12;  
Spring Play 9-10,12; TFC 11;  
Thespians 9-12; Mascot 12;  
Freshman Mentor 12



**Brianna Collins**

Drama Club 9-10; Key  
Club 12; PNN Morning  
Show 11; PNN Friday Show;  
Revue 11-12; STAND 9;  
Student Government 12



**Kenneth Comer**

Autoshop 10; Fall Play 9;  
Football 9; Key Club 12;  
Revue 11



**Alexis Connelly**

Aide 12; Class Government  
12; FCCLA 11-12; French Club  
10-12; Golf 9-12; Golf Captain  
10-12; Key Club 10-12; Key Club  
Officer 11-12; NHS Officer 12;  
Morning Show 11-12; Student  
Government 12; Football  
Manager 10-12; Golf MVP  
10-12; Golf Sportsmanship 9;  
Y.E.S. Club 12



**Janel Contreras**

NHS 12; STAND 12;  
SADD 12



**Shyreonna  
Conwell**

Aide 12; Gary Career Center  
12; Student Government 11;  
Track 11; Y.E.S. Club 12



**Keiko Cooley**

Academic Superbowl 11;  
Aide 12; Class Executive  
President 11-12; Drill Team  
9-10; French Club 12;  
Peer Helper 12; Student  
Government 10-12; Student  
Government Officer  
11-12; Superbowl 11; Teens  
for Christ 11; Air Force  
Association Award



**Aubrey Cowser**

FCCLA 11-12; MPAC 11-12;  
NHS 12; Orchestra 9-12;  
Track 9-12



**Steven Crague**



**Louis Craig**

Jazz Band 10; Football  
9,11-12; Hoosier Boys  
State 11-12; Track 10-12;  
Track Captain 12



**Shauna Creal**



**Ariol Crosby**

SOSA 11; Tennis 9



**David Cross**

Football 9; Track 10-11;  
Weightlifting Competition  
10; Wrestling 11-12;  
Volunteer Work 11





**Jasmine Cummings**

Class Government 12;  
Environmental Club  
12; STAND 9-10,12;  
Student Government 12



**Jonathon Curry**

Drill Team 9;  
Orchestra 9-12; Spring  
Play 9,12



**Jamel Danzy**

Drama Club 10-11; Lip  
Sync 11-12; Peer Helper 10;  
PNN Morning Show 11-12;  
Revue 10; Tennis 10-12;  
Tennis Captain 12; Track  
9,12; Track Captain 12



**Stephan Danzy**



**Bryonna Davis**

Basketball 9-12;  
Basketball Captain 11



**Dianna DeLeon**

Aide 11-12; Concert Choir 11;  
Dance Team 11-12; Dance  
Team Captain 12; Peer  
Helper 12; Spanish Club 12;  
Yearbook 12



**Eduardo DeLuna**

Baseball 10; Football 9-12;  
Football Most Improved 11



**Mariah Dennis**

Aide 10; Dance Team 9-12;  
Dance Team Captain 12;  
Orchestra 9-10; Revue 10-12;  
Yearbook 12; Yearbook  
Sports Section Editor 12



**Lacie Denwood**

Band 9-12;  
STAND Officer 12; Student  
Government 12



**Efrain Diaz**

Football 9,11;  
Wrestling 10,12



**Julia Dicken**

Drama Club 9-12; Drama Officer  
10; Fall Play 9-10; Kids on the  
Block 9-10; Newspaper 9-12;  
Opinion Editor 11; Editor-in-  
Chief 12; Orchestra 9-10; Quill  
and Scroll 11-12; Revue 9-10;  
Spring Play 9-10; Thespians  
9-12; Thespians Officer 10;  
Volleyball 9-10; Weightlifting 12;  
1st Place Indiana Women's Press  
Association



**Andrená Dicks**

Cheerleading 9-10;  
Key Club 12; NHS 11-12



**Ivan Dimitrovski**



**Angelica Dix**

Cheerleading 9; Concert  
Choir 10; Dance Team 10-11;  
Dance Team Captain 10-11;  
French Club 11; Lip Sync  
12; National French Test  
11; Peer Helper 12; Varsity  
Choir 9; Velveteens 11;  
Vocal Teens 11-12; Cheer  
P.E.P. Award



**Angela Dominiack**



**Janika Donald**

Choral Teens 9; Concert  
Choir 10; STAND 11-12;  
Varsity Choir 9



**Elizabeth Dooley**



**Vincent Dorsey**

Basketball 9,11-12



**Danielle Dowling**



**Rachel Drapeau**

Superbowl 10; Aide 11; Marching  
Band 10-11; Jazz Band 9-11; French  
Club 10-11; German Club 9-11;  
German Club Officer 11; NHS 12;  
Orchestra 9-12; Planetarium 9;  
Quiz Bowl 9-12; Revue 11-12 Spring  
Play 10-12; Thespians 11-12; Best  
Actress in NWI and State 2009;  
Y.E.S. Club Interact Officer



**Danielle Dukes**



**Christian Echols**

Hoosiers Boys  
State 11; Track 10-12;  
Track Captain 12



**Cha'yla Eddie**

Marching, Pep, Concert Band 9-12;  
Class Government 12; Drumline  
9-10; Drum Major 11-12; FCCLA 11-12;  
FCCLA Officer 12; Freshman Mentor  
Council Leader 12; NHS 11-12; Peer  
Mediator 9-12; Stu. Gov. 10-12; Stu.  
Gov. Officer 12; TFC 9; Academic  
Award; Outstanding S.S. Student  
Award; RYLA; Founded Y.E.S. Club



**Mahoganeé Edmond**

Concert Choir 9; Spring  
Play 9; Voices of Reason





**Michael Enghofer**

Aide 12; Basketball 9;  
Football 11-12; NHS 11-12;  
Peer Helper 12; Peer  
Mediator 9-10; Soccer 9-12;  
Soccer Captain 12; Track 10;  
MPAC 12



**Recharad Farr**



**Charlette Feagin**

Revue 11; Student  
Government 12



**Byron Ferrell**

Football 11-12; Track 11-12



**Ashley Finch**



**Jacob Flores**

Aide 12; Football 9;  
Weightlifting Competition  
11-12



**Martin Flores**

Building Trades 12;  
CAD 12; Football 9-12;  
Track 9; Wrestling 9-12



**Michael Flores**



**Endda Ford**



**Zachary Forsell**

Baseball 9-12; Wrestling 9



**Ashley French**

Aide 11-12; Basketball 9;  
Class Government 12;  
Student Government 12



**Ian Fultz**

Freshman Mentor  
12; Marching Band 9;  
Soccer 9-12; Track 9-12



**Alexander Gacsy**

Concert, Marching Band 9;  
Cheerleading 12



**Joshua Gaines**

Drama Club 9-10; AFJROTC  
11-12; Command Chief



**Richard Galinis**



**Catherine Gamino**

Aide 12; Cheerleading 9-12;  
Class Government 11; Fall Play  
9; Key Club 9-10; Quill and  
Scroll 11-12; Quill and Scroll  
Officer 12; Yearbook 11-12;  
Yearbook Editor 12; Yearbook  
Business Manager 11; PEP  
Award 11; Scholar Athlete 9-12;  
UCA All Star 10; Top Team 9-11;  
Champion Chant 9-12; NSHSS



**Arturo Garcia**

Baseball 9-10;  
Football 9-11; Soccer 12



**Cinthia Garcia**

Advanced Orchestra 9-12; Aide  
11-12; Key Club 12; STAND  
Officer 12



**Amon  
Garner-Poston**



**Shakiyla  
Gatewood**

Aide 12; Key Club 12; Peer  
Helper 12; STAND 11-12;  
Student Government 12



**Darrel Gearon**



**Jarmel Gearon**



**Tramel Gearon**



**Scott Gedda**

Bowling 9-12;  
Orchestra 9-12; Student  
Government 12





**Maurice Gillespie**



**Shantelai Gilliam**



**Kourtney Givens**

Choral Teens 11-12; Concert Choir 10; Freshman Mentor 12; Freshman Mentor Council Leader 12; Key Club 9; Revue 11; Show Choir 9-12; STAND 9-12; STAND Officer 11-12; TFC 12; Varsity Choir 9; Velveteens 10-11; Vocalteens 12; NSHSS



**Mynor Gonzalez**

Drama Club 9; National French Test 10; Revue 9; Spring Play 9; Thespians 10-12



**Perry Gordon IV**



**Keyanah Grant**

Gary Career Center 11-12; STAND 12; Student Government 12



**Nicholas Greene**

Basketball 9



**Danniella**

**Gregoline**

Cheerleading 9-12; Cheerleading Captain 10; Choral Teens 11; Concert Choir 10; PNN Friday Show 12; Student Government 9; Varsity Choir 9; Velveteens 10-11; MVC, Leadership 10



**Cierra**

**Griggs-Bradley**

Spell Bowl 12; STAND 12



**Daniel Gronli**

Chess Club 11-12; Class Government 10-12; Drama Club 9-10; Fall Play 9-10; FEA 11; FEA Officer 11; German Club 9-12; German Club Officer 11-12; Key Club 10; STAND 9



**Anastasia**

**Gutierrez**



**Luis Gutierrez**

Orchestra 9-12; Planetarium 9



**Steven Gusek**

NHS 12; Soccer 9-12; Track 9-12



**Martel Hall**

Key Club 10,12



**Torrence**

**Hamilton**

Football 9; STAND 11



**Harlene Haro**

Advanced Orchestra 9-10,12; STAND 10,12; SADD 11; Track 12



**Cori Harris**

Basketball 10; Class Government 11-12; Kids on the Block 10; Teens for Christ 9; Track 11-12



**Jasmine Harris**

Cheerleading 10-12



**Tiara Harrison**

STAND 9-10,12



**Nathan Hartford**

Concert Choir 9; Golf 12; Wrestling 9; Eagle Scout



**Leon Hatzler**

Soccer 12



**Lydia Hawkins**



**Julie Hays**

Marching; Concert Band 9-12; Drumline 9; FEA 12; FEA Officer 12; FCCLA 11-12; Homecoming Committee 12; Key Club 9-10; Student Government 11-12; Swimming 9-10; Tennis 9-12;



**Angelica Hernandez**

Aide 10,12; Golf 9-10; Swimming Manager 12





**Juan Hernandez**



**Caitlyn Hill**

Bowling 9; Decathlon Team 12; NHS 12; Newspaper 12; Newspaper Features Editor 12; Quiz Bowl 12; Spell Bowl 11-12



**Ryan Hill**



**Tayler Hill**

Key Club 12; Track 12



**Michael**

**Hollingsworth**  
Basketball 9; Track 12



**Dexter Hoskins III**

Baseball 9; Building Trades 12



**Briana Howard**



**Marcus Howard**

Football 9-12; Football Captain 12



**Angela Hunt**

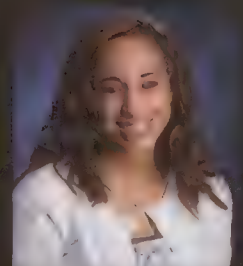
Gary Career Center 11



**Derrick**

**Hutton-Kinsey**

Football 9-12; Freshman Mentor 12; Track 9-11; Weightlifting Competition 10-11



**Brittini Jackson**

Aide 12; Dance Team 10-12; Dance Team Captain 11; Freshman Mentor 12; Orchestra 9-12; Revue 12; Track 9



**Machel Jackson**



**Sarah Jackson**

STAND 12; Student Government 11



**Sha'Pree Jackson**

Softball Manager 11; Student Government 11; Teens for Christ 12; AFJROTC



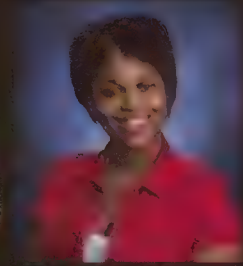
**Jericca Jasso**

Orchestra 9-12; STAND Officer 12; SADD 12



**Unique Jeter**

Aide 11; Cheerleading 9; Concert Choir 10; Dance Team 10-12; Drama Club 9-10; Fall Play 9-10; Revue 9,11; Spring Play 10; Thespians 9-10; Varsity Choir 9; Velveteens 10



**Chaneice Johnson**

Peer Helper 12; Peer Mediator 12; Revue 12



**Gavonni Johnson**

Drama Club 11-12; Football 9; Revue 11



**Kayla Johnson**

Choral Teens 11-12; Concert Choir 10; Key Club 12; STAND Officer 9,10-12; TFC 12; Varsity Choir 9; Velveteens 10; Vocalteens 11-12



**Seontay Johnson**



**Gwendolyn Joiner**



**Janella Joiner**



**DaSheema Jones**

Basketball Manager 9-12; Freshman Mentor 12; Lip Sync 12; Track 9-11



**Benjamin Kepchar**

NHS 12; Soccer 11-12; Track 9; Weightlifting Competition 10; Wrestling 11-12





**Andrew Kerns**



**Kari Kiel**  
AFJROTC 9-10;  
STAND 11-12



**Dominique Kimbrough**



**Allison Kish**  
FEA 12; MPAC 11; NHS 11-12;  
Newspaper 12; Orchestra  
9; Student Government  
10-12; Tennis Manager 9;  
Tennis 9-12; Tennis Captain  
12; Yearbook 12; Yearbook  
Academics Editor 12;  
Tennis Most Improved 10



**Charné Knight**  
Marching, Concert Band  
9-12; Revue 11



**Jaimie Koeppl**  
Drama Club 9



**Emily Kurczynski**  
Freshman Mentor 12;  
Gymnastic Manager  
10; Wrestling Student  
Manager 11; Track 9-10;  
Volleyball 9-12; Volleyball  
Captain 12



**Melissa Kwiatkoski**  
Cheerleading 9-12;  
Cheerleading Captain  
12; Baseball Manager  
10-12; MPAC 12; Peer  
Mediator 9-12; PNIN  
Friday Show 10-12; Senior  
Adviser 12; Senior Video  
Editor 12; P.E.P. Award  
9-10, 12; Cheerleading  
Sportsmanship Award 11



**Jermaine Lafayette**



**Jermale Lafayette**



**Luis Lagunas**  
Orchestra 10-12;  
Planetarium 9-12



**Elizabeth Lamb**



**Landau Lang**  
Football 9-12; Lip Sync  
Winner 12; Mock Trial  
Team 12; Track 9-12; Track  
Captain 12; Weightlifting  
Competition 9-12



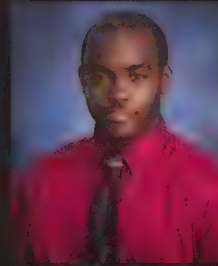
**Pauline Laorden**  
Band 9; Class Officer 9; Cross  
Country 9; NHS 12; Newspaper  
Opinion Editor 11; Morning  
Show 11; Friday Show 12;  
Show Choir 11; STAND 10-12;  
STAND Officer 11; Student  
Advisory Board 10-12; Student  
Government 9; Student  
Government Officer 9; TFC  
9-12; Yearbook Photographer



**Jillian Larson**  
Band 9-10; Bowling Team  
9-12; Class Government  
10-12; FEA 12; FCCLA  
10-12; FCCLA Officer 11-12;  
Newspaper 12; Student  
Government 10-12



**Alexander Lawrosky**  
Autoshop 9-12



**William Laws**  
Football 9; STAND 12;  
Track 9-12; Y.E.S. Club 12;  
Freshman Mentor 12



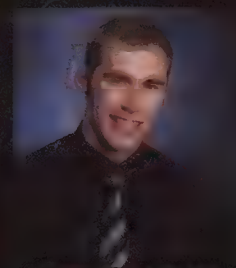
**Briana Lee**  
Dance Team 9-11; Key Club  
9-10; Revue 10-11; STAND  
9-10; Student Government  
9-10



**Jairus Lee**



**Shalaya Lee**  
Drama Club 9-12;  
Spring Play 11



**Timothy Leicht**



**Ni'Kee Lewis**



**Xochitl Logan**  
Color Guard 9;  
FCCLA 11-12; FCCLA  
Officer 12; Aide 12; Student  
Government 11-12; Football  
Manager 11-12; Student  
Trainer 11-12; Y.E.S. Club 12



**Camilia Logwood**





**Ya'Kee Lomax**

Key Club 12; STAND 12;  
C 12; Tennis 10; Track 11



**Korey Loudermilk**

French Club 11; Newspaper  
12; PNN Friday Show 10-12;  
Senior Video Editor 12;  
Track 9-10; Varsity Choir 9;  
Volleyball 9-12; Volleyball  
Captain 12; Weightlifting  
Competition 12



**Diva Lowe**

Cheerleading 9-12; Concert  
Choir 9; French Club 12;  
PNN Morning Show 10,12;  
PNN Friday Show 12;  
Varsity Choir 9



**Anthony Luipold**

Building Trades 12



**DeVonte Mabon**

**Adonis Madry**

Building Trades 12;  
Football 9-11



**Theofilos  
Makarounas**

Lip Sync Winner 12;  
Soccer 9-12; Soccer Captain  
12



**Ryan Malone**

Academic Super Bowl 11-12;  
FCCLA 11



**Jasmine Marsh**



**Dominique  
Marshall**

Homecoming Court 12;  
Key Club 9; Aide 12; PNN  
Morning Show 9-12;  
Student Government 12



**Demetri Martin**

Basketball 9; CAD 11;  
Football 9



**Sarah Martin**

Super Bowl 9-12; Class Secretary  
9-10; Class Treasurer 11-12; Class  
Government 9-12; FCCLA 11-12;  
FCCLA Officer 12; French Club  
11; Golf 9-12; JETS 12; Key Club  
9-12; Key Club Officer 9-12;  
NHS 11-12; National French Test  
11; Orchestra 9-12; Quiz Bowl  
9-12; Student Advisory Board  
11-12; SADD 11-12; Student  
Government 9-12; Super Bowl  
9-12; MPAC 10-12; Pirate Council  
10-11



**Antonia Martinez**

AFJROTC 9,12



**Francis Martisovic**

Autoshop 10;  
Building Trades 12;  
Business Professionals of  
America 11-12; Golf 9-12;  
Golf Captain 9-12



**Sarah Mason**

Aide 11-12; Basketball 9;  
FCCLA 10; Softball 9-12;  
STAND 9; Student Trainer  
12; Teacher Freshman  
Mentor 12



**Jasmine Massengill**

Cheerleading 9-11



**Phillip  
Mayweathers**

Band 9-12; Football 9-11;  
SADD 10



**Johnny  
McClendon III**



**Blair McDaniel**

Cheerleading 9; Prom  
Queen 11; Quiz Bowl 11-12;  
Spell Bowl 10-12; TFC 9;  
Track 9,12; Freshman  
Mentor 12



**Megan McGill**

Aide 10-11; Color Guard  
12; Student Manager  
11-12; Freshman Mentor 12;  
AFJROTC 9-12



**Fantasia McKinney**



**Matthew  
McLindon**

PNN Morning Show 12;  
PNN Friday Show 11-12;  
Prom Court 11; Revue 9-11;  
Freshman Mentor 12; PNN  
Senior Advisor-in Chief



**Ronald McMillian**

Band 9-12; Bowling  
Team 9,12; STAND 9-12;  
STAND Officer 11



**Michael McNeil**

Baseball 9-12





**Amber Medwetz**  
Band 9-12; Class Officer  
Secretary 10-11; Class  
Government 10-12; FEA  
12; FEA Officer 12; FCCLA  
10-12; FCCLA Officer 11-12;  
NHS 12; Peer Helper 12;  
Student Government 10-12;  
Tennis 9-12



**Rachel Mendez**  
Aide 12; Class Government  
11; NHS 11-12; Quill and  
Scroll 11-12; Quill and  
Scroll Officer 12; Yearbook  
11-12; Yearbook Editor 12;  
Yearbook Photographer 11



**Ashley Mercado**



**Sara Mercado**



**Latoi Merriweather**  
Basketball 9-12; Softball  
9-12; Most Improved  
Softball



**Diona Milenkovski**  
Aide 12; Gymnastics 9-12;  
Soccer 9; Track 9



**Lakeshia Miles**  
Class VP 11; Class Secretary 12;  
Class Government 10-12; FEA  
Officer 12; FCCLA 11-12; FCCLA  
Officer 12; French Club 9-12;  
Key Club 12; National French  
Test 11; Peer Helper 11; Student  
Government 10-12; Student  
Government Officer 11-12;  
RYLA; French Tutor; Y.E.S.  
Club 12; Freshman Mentor 12



**Patricia Millard**  
Cheerleading 9; Drama Club  
9-12; Drama Club Officer  
10-12; Fall Play 10-12; Golf  
10-12; Kids on the Block 9-12;  
Orchestra 9-12; Revue 9-12;  
Spring Play 9-12; Teacher  
Aide 11-12; Thespians 9-12;  
Thespians Officer 10-12;  
Shining Star Newcomer 9;  
Freshman Mentor 12



**Armando Miller**  
Aide 10; Band 9-12;  
Planetarium 9-12;



**Anthony Miranda**  
Aide 12; Autoshop 11; Cross  
Country 9-12; Track 9-10,12



**Tracee Mitchell**  
Basketball 9-12;  
Basketball Captain 9,11



**Cameron Mitchell**  
Football 9-12; Hoosier Bowl  
State 11-12; NHS 11-12; Track  
10-12; Track Captain 11



**Jacquell Mitchell**



**Lindsey Mitchell**  
Softball 9-12; AFJROTC 9  
12; AFJROTC Top Six 12



**Ne'Shell Mitchell**  
Track 9-12



**Nicolas Mojica**  
Aide 12; Soccer 9-12;



**Aariana Moore**  
Aide 11; Color Guard 10-12;  
STAND 9; Track 9; ROTC  
9-12; ROTC Advance Drill  
Team Commander



**Leslie Morgan**



**Patrick Morgan**



**Demetrius Morris**



**Juaquin Muro**



**Samantha Murphy**  
Concert Choir 9; Drama  
9; FCCLA 9-11; French  
Club 10-12; STAND 11-12;  
SADD 11



**Anthony Napules**  
Student Government 11-12;  
Winning 9-12; Winning  
Values 11



**Stacy Neyhart**  
Autoshop 10-12

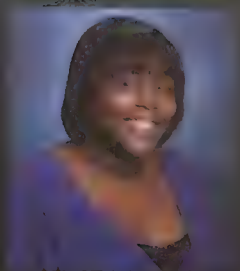




**Victor Nzeata**  
Football 9; Soccer 11;  
Track 9; Wrestling 10-12;  
Freshman Mentor 12



**Dana Olinger**  
STAND 12



**Taneisha Oliver**



**Carlos Ortega**  
CAD 12; Cross Country 11;  
Football 9; Swimming 10-12;  
Track 9



**Javier Ortiz Jr.**  
Autoshop 10; Baseball  
9; CAD 9; Football 9;  
Key Club 10



**Jeremy Osika**



**Chelsea Oyervides**  
Planetarium 9-12; Soccer  
10; Softball 9-12; STAND  
9-10,12; SADD 11; Yearbook  
12; Freshman Mentor 12



**Parry  
Papamihalakis**  
Band 9-12; Fall Play 11-12;  
Spring Play 12



**Kyle Papp**  
PNN Friday Show 9-10;  
Tennis 9-12; Tennis Captain  
12



**Elliott Parker**  
Football 9-12;  
Orchestra 9-12; STAND 9-  
10,12; Student Government  
12; Aide 11-12; TFC 10-11;  
Thespians 12; Track 9-12;  
Weightlifting Competition  
12; Freshman Mentor 12



**Peter Paskash**  
Baseball 9-10,12;  
Football 9-10; PNN Friday  
Show 10-12; Pressman 11;  
Weightlifting Competition  
9-12



**Ajay Patel**  
Aide 12; Superbowl 10-12;  
Chess Club 11-12; Decathlon  
Team 12; French Club 12; IU  
Honors Club 12; Key Club  
12; NHS 11-12; NHS Officer  
12; Quiz Bowl 11-12; Science  
Olympiad 12; Soccer 11-12



**Mai'Anais Patton**  
STAND 9



**Vania Pellizzaro**  
FCCLA 12; German 12



**Christian Pena**  
Football 9; Weightlifting  
Competition 9-12



**Jacqueline Pena**  
Band 9-12; Drama Club 11;  
CAD 12



**Michael Perkins**



**Kevin Phillips**  
PNN Friday Show 11



**Brenda Pidgeon**  
Bowling 11-12; Concert  
Choir 10; SOSA 12; Peer  
Helper 12; Spring Play  
10; Student Government  
11; Varsity Choir 9;  
Velveteens 11; Vocalteens 12



**Courtney Pitts**  
Aide 11; Band 9-12;  
Gary Area Career Center 12;  
Freshman Mentor 12



**Xavier Ponce**



**James Posey**  
Cross Country; Peer  
Helper 12; Track 9-12;  
Track Captain 12



**Lisa Pozniak**  
Aide 11-12; Cheerleading  
9-12; Gymnastics 11-12;  
Gymnastics Captain 12; All-  
American Cheerleader

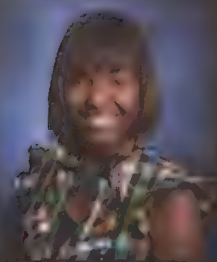


**Misty Pratt**  
Key Club 12; STAND 12





**Naumce Prentoski**



**Alexis Protho**  
Aide 11; Drama Club 11;  
Key Club 10; Student  
Government 12;  
Freshman Mentor 12



**Anxastasia Protho**



**Ryan Puente**



**Nadia Randolph**  
Band 9; Dance Team  
12; Key Club 12; STAND  
9; Tennis 10; Track 9;  
Volleyball 9



**LaToya  
Reaves-Weaver**  
Aide 11-12; Basketball 9-12;  
CAD 9-12



**Jarrett Reynolds**  
Football 9; Soccer 10;  
Tennis 12



**Scottie  
Richardson**  
Aide 10; Autoshop 11;  
Football 9; Wrestling 9-10



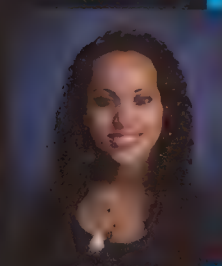
**Natalie Riechers**  
Aide 12; Softball 9-12;  
Softball Captain 12;  
Volleyball 9-12; Volleyball  
Captain 12; Yearbook  
12; Softball Leadership  
Award 10-12; MPAC 11-12;  
Freshman Mentor 12; Quill  
and Scroll 12



**Jellicia Rivera**  
Soccer 10-12; Softball 12



**Juan Rivera**  
Aide 12; Band 9-12; Class VP  
12; Class Government 10-12;  
Diving 9-12; Diving Captain  
11; NHS 11-12; Peer Helper  
12; Prom Court 11; Student  
Government 9-12; Student  
Government Officer  
11-12; MPAC 12; Freshman  
Mentor 12



**Melina Rivera**  
Homecoming Queen 11;  
NHS 11-12; Show Choir 9-12;  
STAND 9, 11-12; STAND  
Officer 12; Freshman  
Mentor 12



**Gabrielle Roberts**  
Concert Choir 9; Dance  
Team 9-12; Key Club 12;  
Revue 11-12; STAND 12;  
Student Government 12;  
Yearbook 12



**Christopher  
Robinson**  
Sport's Manager 11



**Devonte  
Robinson**



**Erica Robinson**



**Jaylah Robinson**  
Band 9-10;  
Dance Team 10-12; Revue  
11-12



**Monique Rojas**  
Student Government 10-12



**Rebecca Romero**  
Aide 12



**Sarah Romero**  
Aide 12



**Arrell  
Ross-Williams**  
Football 9, 11; Track 11



**Tristin Russell**



**Michael Scegiel**  
Aide 11; CAD 10; Key Club  
11-12



**Colin Schafer**  
Baseball 9-12; Aide 12





**Sean Schafer**  
Bowling 9-12



**Kevin Schroeder**  
Aide 12; Baseball 9-12;  
MPAC 11-12



**Carlotta  
Sciacaluga**  
Key Club 12



**Amber Scollon**  
Aide 12; Chess Club 11-12;  
Cross Country 12; French  
Club 11-12; German Club  
11-12; Key Club 12; Student  
Government 10-12; TFC  
11-12; Track 11



**Lawrence  
Scroggins**  
Choral Teens 10-12;  
Concert Choir 9; Fall Play  
11; Football 10-12; Show  
Choir 10-12; Swimming 9;  
Track 11; Vocal Teens 10-12;  
Freshman Mentor 12



**Rubie Seals**



**Joseph Sepulveda**  
Football 9-12



**Kashis Shannon**  
Basketball 9; CAD 12



**Brianna Sheppard**  
Aide 11;  
Student Government 9-12;  
Freshman Mentor 12



**Alyssa Shirk**  
Class Government 11-12; Drama  
Club 9-12; Drama Club Officer  
10-12; Fall Play 9-12; French Club  
9-12; French Club Officer 11; Kids  
on the Block 10-12; Revue 9-12;  
Show Choir 11-12; Spring Play  
9-12; Swimming 9-10; Thespian  
Officer 10-12; Choir 9-12; Best  
Thespian Award, "Rabbit Hole"  
2nd at State; Contest Play  
10-12; Stu. Exec. Bd. for Indiana  
Thespian Society 12; Freshman  
Mentor 12



**Precious Shoulder**



**Jason Simpson**  
Basketball 9-12;  
Basketball Captain 9-10



**Shannan Sims**



**Faith Smith**



**Kamilah Smith**  
Class Government 11;  
Drama Club 9; Newspaper  
11; Show Choir 9-11;  
Softball 12; Student  
Government 11-12



**Talia Smith**



**Sabrina  
Smith-Griggs**  
Academic Super Bowl  
10-12; Aide 11; Band 10-11;  
German Club 9-11; German  
Club Officer 10-11; NHS 12;  
Orchestra 9-12; Quiz Bowl  
Team 9-12; Spring Play 11



**John Sobczak**  
Aide 10-12; Cheerleading 9;  
Drama Club 9-10; Drama  
Club Officer 10; Fall Play  
9-10; Key Club Officer  
9; Kids on the Block  
9-10; Newspaper Arts and  
Entertainment Editor 12;  
PNN Friday Show 10-11;  
Revue 9-10; Spring Play  
9-10; Thespians 9-12



**Ramina Sorny**



**Treasura Sowell**  
Aide 12; Art Club 9; Class  
Government 12; Concert Choir  
9-12; Drama Club 9; Environmental  
Club 12; Key Club 10-12; Marine  
Biology 12; NHS 12; Show Choir 10;  
Softball 9-10; Softball Captain 10;  
Student Government 9-12; Tennis 9;  
Volleyball 10-11; Voices of Reason



**RaeQuila Starks**  
STAND 9; Freshman  
Mentor 12



**Kiara  
Stephens-Brown**  
Concer Choir 10; Show  
Choir 11-12; STAND 10-12;  
TFC 12; Velveteens 11;  
Freshman Mentor 12



**Kaitlynn  
Sterkowitz**  
Concert Choir 9; Softball  
9-12; Student Trainer 12;  
Swimming 9-12



**Zachary Stevens**  
CAD 9-12; Wrestling 9-12;  
Wrestling Captain 12





**Andrea Stevenson**  
Drama Club 9;  
Environmental 11-12;  
German 9-12; German Club  
Officer 11-12; Marine Biology  
12; Spring Play 10



**James Stewart**  
Football 9-12



**Priscilla Stewart**  
Peer Helper 12; TFC 12;  
Freshman Mentor 12



**Kymeisha Stokes**



**Kenneth Stone**  
Kids on the Block 10;  
Student Government 10-11;  
Aide 12; TFC 9; Freshman  
Mentor 12



**Nicholas Stoval**  
Aide 11; Autoshop 11-12  
Choral Teens 10; Concert  
Choir 9, 11; Revue 11



**Brittanie  
Sturdivant**  
Aide 11-12; Dance Team 11;  
Track 9-10, 12; Freshman  
Mentor 12



**Sylvia Suggs**



**Zachary Swierc**  
Superbowl 9-12; Band 9-12;  
Decathlon 9-12; German  
Club 9-12; German Club  
Officer 11-12; NHS 12;  
Planetarium 9-12; Quiz Bowl  
9-12; Science Olympiad 9, 12;  
Spell Bowl 10-12



**Nicole Tarulis**  
German Club 9-11; German  
Club Officer 9-11; Orchestra  
9-12; Planetarium 9-12



**Christopher  
Taylor**  
Band 9-12



**Dawneasha Taylor**  
FEA 12; Freshman Mentor  
12; Key Club 9-10



**Jasmine Taylor**  
Basketball 9-10; Student  
Government 10;  
Volleyball 9



**Julian Taylor**  
Cross Country 9; Football  
10-11; Football Captain  
11; NHS 11; Swimming 10;  
Track 9-12; Track Captain  
10-11; F.A.C.E.S. Modeling  
Troupe 11



**Terrell Taylor**  
Chess Club 12



**T'Neshwa Teamer**



**Lesley Tharpe**  
Aide 11; Student  
Government 9



**Brittanie Thomas**  
Decathlon 12;  
Drill Team, Color Guard  
9-12



**Jamal Thomas**  
Basketball 9; Bowling 11;  
Drama Club 12; Freshman  
Mentor 12; Revue 11;  
STAND 11-12



**Montrell Thomas**  
STAND 12



**Jacob Tokarczyk**  
Building Trades 11-12



**Dylan Toneff**  
Band 9, 11; NHS 11-12



**Alaina Torres**  
Drill Team 9; Key Club 11



**Nicholas Townes**  
Baseball 9-12; Building  
Trades 12; TFC 10-12;  
State H.S. 3A Ice Hockey  
Champions 2007; Ice  
Hockey 9-12





**Kathleen Towry**  
Drama Club 9-10;  
Thespians 9-10; Varsity  
Choir 9



**Frank Traina**  
Aide 12; Soccer 9-11;  
Baseball Manager 12



**Steven Trajkovski**  
CAD 9



**D'Shay Travis**  
Cheerleading 10; JROTC 12;  
Newspaper 12; STAND 12



**James Travis**  
Football 9-12; Football  
Captain 12; Freshman  
Mentor 12; Wrestling 9-12;  
Wrestling Captain 11-12



**Jovan Trenoski**  
Football 9,12



**Samuel Troutman**  
CAD 11



**Crystal Valant**



**Frankie Valdivia**  
Wrestling 9-12; Wrestling  
Captain 9-12



**Nicole Varela**  
Choral Teens 10-11; Concert  
Choir 10; SOSA 12; Drama  
Club 9-12; Fall Play 9-12; Key  
Club 11-12; NHS 12; Revue  
10-11; Show Choir 10-12;  
Spring Play 9-12; SADD 10-  
11; Thespians 9-12; Varsity  
Choir 9; Velveteens 10-11;  
Vocalteens 12



**Natalie Vartanoff**  
Aide 11; Cross Country 9;  
Homecoming Court 12;  
NHS 11-12; Track 9



**LaQuenda Verner**  
Gary Career Center 11-12



**Patrick Virtanen**  
Drama Club 12



**Jasmine Wade**



**Brionna Walker**  
Freshman Mentor 12; Peer  
Helper 12; STAND Officer  
9; Student Government  
10-12; Student Government  
Officer 11-12



**Amber Walls**



**Perry Ward**



**Julian Washington**



**Anthony Watson Jr.**  
Aide 12; Class Government 10;  
Choral Teens 11-12; Concert  
Choir 10; Drama Club 10-12;  
Freshman Mentor 12; Revue  
10; Show Choir 10-12; Spring  
Play 11; STAND 12; Student  
Government 10; Thespians 10-  
12; Vocalteens 11-12



Freshmen Pauline Laorden, Deborah Ohiani-Jegede,  
Najeb Arifee and Sarah Martin



Sophomores Sarah Martin, Amber Medwetz, Najeb Arifee  
and Pauline Laorden

## Class officers





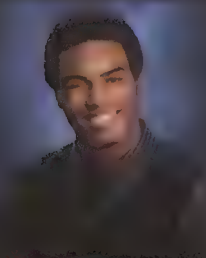
**Jeremy Wengel**  
Aide 12; Baseball 9;  
Wrestling 9-12; Wrestling  
Captain 12



**Joseph White**  
Autoshop 9-12



**Joseph Wiekierak**  
Key Club 12; Track 9



**Kelly Wiggins II**  
Aide 12; Football 10-12;  
Freshman Mentor 12; Track  
10-12; Track Captain 12;  
Weightlifting Competition  
10-12



**Andre Wilkerson**



**Jazlen Wilkerson**  
Aide 10; Drama Club 10;  
Drama Club Officer 12; Fall  
Play 10-12; Revue 10; Spring  
Play 10; Thespians 10-12



**Jacob Williams**  
Band 9-11



**Kayla Williams**  
Drama Club 9-12; Fall  
Play 10; Gary Career  
Center 11-12; Key Club 9;  
NHS 12; Prom Court 11;  
STAND 9-10; Thespians  
9-12; Prostart Culinary  
Competition



**Cameron  
Williamson**  
Freshman Mentor 12;  
Peer Helper 11



**Destinee  
Williamson**



**Whitney  
Williamson**



**Andrew Wilson**  
Building Trades 11-12;  
CAD 12



**Paige Wilson**  
FCCLA 11-12; NHS 12;  
Orchestra 9-12



**Brionne  
Witherspoon**  
Aide 10-11; Class Officer-  
President 9; Dance Team  
9; Dance Team Captain 9;  
Drill Team 9; Gary Career  
Center 10-11; Peer Helper 12



**Shannon Wood**  
Aide 11; FEA 12; FEA Officer  
12; FCCLA 11-12; Orchestra  
9; 2 Scholastic Gold Keys;  
Yearbook Photography  
11-12



**Christian  
Woodberry**  
Chess Club 9-12; Spell Bowl  
11-12; STAND Officer 9;  
Tennis 10



**Theresa Yugo**  
Concert Choir 10;  
Gymnastics 9-12; Varsity  
Choir 9; Winter Formal  
Queen 10; Gymnastics Most  
Improved 9,11



**Elizabeth Zawada**

## through the years



Juniors Lakeshia Miles, Najeb Arifce  
and Amber Medwet



Seniors Juan Rivera, Sarah Martin, Lakeshia Miles  
and Najeb Arifce



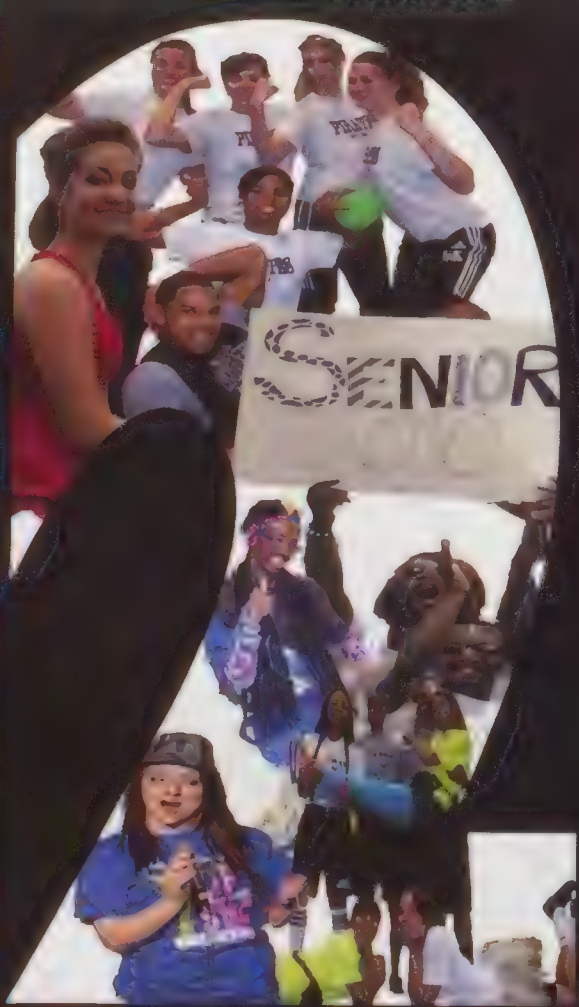
**Chester Ziemniak**  
Autoshop 9-11; CAD 10;  
Swimming 10



Mohsen Algahmi  
 Alexandria Allen  
 Swimming 9  
 Katrina Alston  
 Jason Alvarez  
 Alexander Aldino  
 Christopher Andonovski  
 Lyndon Armstrong Jr.  
 Martin Arriaga  
 Amber Baiz  
 Key Club 12  
 Walter Barcenas  
 Football 9-10; Soccer 11-12; Wrestling 9-12  
 Eric Black  
 Houston Bond

Aaron Clayton  
 Diamond Cody  
 Homecoming Court 12  
 Christian Criswell  
 Billie Davis  
 Timothy Davis  
 Jeremy DeJesus  
 Autoshop 10-12; CAD 11; German Club 10-11  
 Zachary DeRolf  
 Parker Douglas  
 Peer Helper 9-12; Swimming 9  
 Ashley Douglass  
 SOSA 12  
 Henry Dunlap  
 Deborah Dusik  
 Aide 11; Freshman Mentor 12

Jeffery Greer  
 Autoshop 11-12  
 Jazzmyne Griggs  
 Drama Club 11-12; Peer Helper 12; Softball 12;  
 STAND 10,12; Student Government 12  
 Emmanuel Gullet  
 Robert Hammond II  
 Ashley Haney  
 Jonathan Harmon  
 Cross Country 11; Football 9; Swimming 10-12;  
 Track 9-12; Wrestling 9  
 Ashley Hill  
 Paris Holley  
 Football 9-11; Football Captain 11; Weightlifting  
 Competition 9-12; Weightlifting Competition  
 Champion 11



Kevon Bowen  
 Keayra Brookins  
 Jessica Brooks  
 Aide 12; Cheerleading 9-10,12; Class Gov. 12;  
 Homecoming Court 12; Key Club 9,11; Key Club  
 Officer 10,12; Freshman Mentor 12; Newspaper  
 10-11; STAND 12; Stu. Gov. 12; Yearbook 11

Kiara Brown  
 Cheerleading 10-11  
 Tyeshia Brown  
 Kyle Bruce  
 Peter Butler Jr.  
 Ku'Juan Byrd  
 Diving 10; Track 10; Yearbook 11-12

Jerome Cain  
 Kunessa Caldwell  
 Peer Helper 12; Prom Committee 12  
 Akeeba Clark  
 Stu. Gov. 11; VOR 12

Zachary Edwards  
 Aide 11; NHS 11-12; Air Force Math and Science  
 Award; AFJROTC Commander, Drill Team,  
 Color Guard, Armed Drill Team, Honor Guard

Marques Elliot  
 Phillip Evans Jr.  
 Kaitlyn Farmer  
 Michael Fayson  
 Chinenye Felix  
 Football 9-11; STAND 12  
 Angela Flores  
 Planetarium 9-10; STAND 12

Jesus Garcia  
 Elizabeth Garza  
 Heather Geeze  
 Anye Gibson  
 Malcolm Graham  
 Dominique Gray

Ashley Houston  
 Gary Career Center 11-12; Key Club 12; Peer  
 Helper 11; Track 9,12; Student of the Year

Brittane Houston  
 Gary Career Center 11-12; Track 12

Kamyah Hughes  
 Basketball Manager 9

Mark Jakubowicz  
 Building Trades 12

Ryan Jenkins

Darrien Johnson

Kym Johnson

Stephen Johnson

George Jolly

Tina Kaczmariski

Zakiyyah Karim

Brittney Kidd



**Melony Kinsey**  
**Janca' Kline**  
 Drama Club 10

**Samantha Kwell**  
 Aide 12; Bowling 12

**Dennis Lawson**

**Joshua Leeks**

**Andrew Lewis**  
 Track 11-12

**Sean Lewis**

**Kimberly Macklin**

**Hector Magallanes**

**Deandre' Marteen**

**Kevin Mask**

**Christian Matthews**

**Andres Perez**

**James Pollard**

Football 9-10; Student Government 11-12;  
 Freshman Mentor 12

**Denzell Riley**

Band 10-12; CAD 9; Drama Club 9-10; Drumline  
 10-12; Fall Play 10-11; German Club 10-12

**Francisco Robledo**

**Gerrod Rodgers**

Building Trades 12; Chess Club 12; Drama 11;  
 Football 9; Speech & Debate Team 11; Spell  
 Bowl Team 11; Aide 9

**Tyree Sallee-Lindsay**

**Gregory Sanders II**

Building Trades 12; CAD 10; Football 9-12

**Tony Sanders**

**Kenneth Talley**

**Sanchez Tate Jr.**

Aide 12; Football 9-12; Football Captain 12;  
 Freshman Mentor 12; MPAC; Track 9-12; Track  
 Captain 12; Weightlifting Competition 11-12

**Alexandria Taylor**

Gary Career Center 11-12;  
 Student Government 12

**Rebekah Taylor**

**Cwon Terrell**

Basketball 9; Basketball Captain 9

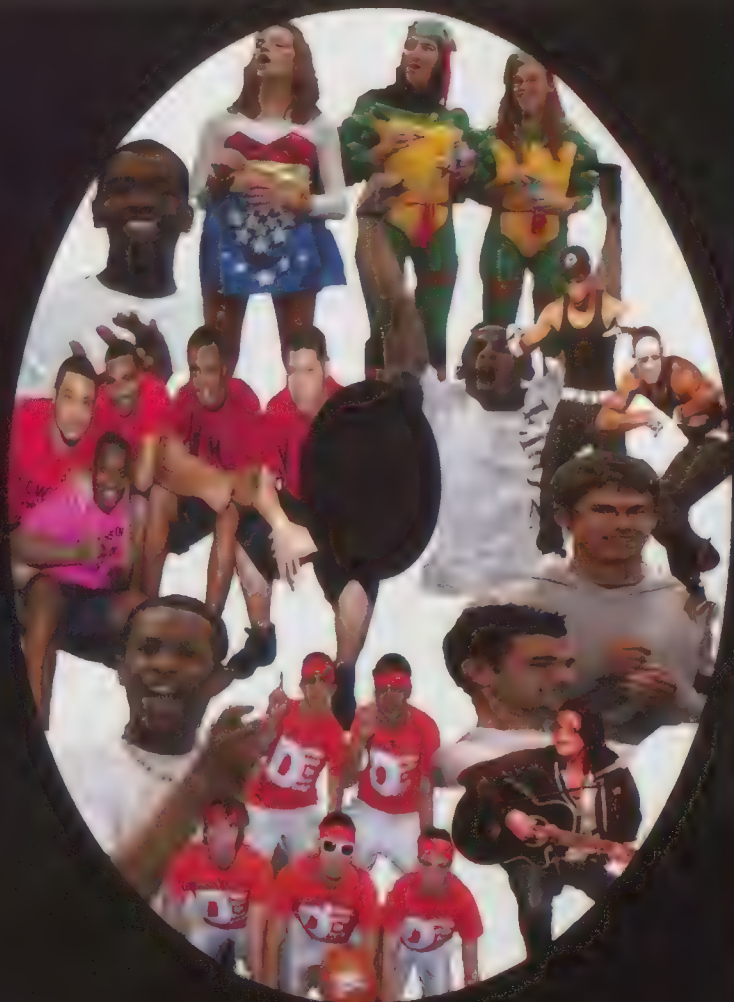
**Amber Todd**

Key Club 10; Tennis 11-12

**Orlando Toney**

**Julian Turner**

**Joseph VanVleet**



**Konstantinos Matzaris**

German Club 10-12

**Bryce McCurdy**

**Kiara McLaurin**

**Brittany Mickey**

**Miroslav Miljus**

**Luke Miller**

Autoshop 11-12; Color Guard 9; Orchestra 9-10

**Lun-Yea Morris**

**Suhail Mufarreh**

**Nekoh Newman**

Basketball 10; Bowling Team 12

**Kaila O'Reilly**

**Jasmine Ortiz**

**Stacy Ozuna**

**Tamra Parker**

**Matthew Santana Jr.**

Aide 9-10; Key Club 12; Teens for Christ 12

**Hassan Schwartz**

**Jasmine Scott**

**Powell Smith**

**Shaun Smith**

**Tuesday Smith**

Class Gov. 12; Peer Helper 12; Y.E.S. Club 12

**Rico Spikes**

**Deonta Stewart**

**Joseph Strydom**

Autoshop 11-12

**Megan Sturgeon**

Peer Helper 12; Teacher Aide 12

**Zachary Sturm**

**Shanique Sweet**

Gary Career Center 11-12; Stu. Gov. 12

**Angelica Vara**

**Donald Walker**

**Dewayne Ware**

CAD 10; Freshman Mentor 12; STAND 12

**Miranda White**

**Craig Williams**

**Tanae Williams**

**Christopher Wilson**

**Terrell Wilson**

Football 10; Wrestling 9

**Logan Wright-Reich**

CAD 11; Chess Club 9; STAND 9

**Rodney Yarbro III**

**Iyuan Yarbrought**



# VICTORY IS overrated



While participating in the egg toss during Senior vs. Faculty Decathlon, Senior Peter Paskash and Mr. Luke Starkey try to catch their eggs. "Our strategy was to beat them, but at the very end, Natalie dropped our last egg. Well, I dropped a few eggs too," Paskash said.

Playing hockey for the Senior vs. Faculty Decathlon, Senior Nicholas Townes competes against teacher Mr. Jacob Stafford. "I went first not knowing the rules, which I felt put me at a disadvantage," Townes said. In the end, Townes was able to win one for the seniors.



Staying afloat during water polo, Senior Colin Burke faces teacher Mr. Dave Hossler in another decathlon event. "Our main strategy was for me to swim down the middle at blazing speeds and Brandon would throw me the ball," Burke said.

In the home run derby, Senior Kevin Schroeder competes against baseball coach Mr. Mark Schellinger. "I had a blast. The strategy was to get inside Schell's head," Schroeder said. At the end of the event, Schroeder was able to prevail and win one for the seniors.



## I'M NOT READY YET! See what unfolds Back to square one. endle Pushing the limits HAVING FUN YET? Thro

To honor the Special Olympics Basketball Team for their second state championship, Mr. Andrew Niksich called each player to the floor. Russell Parkhurst and Jonathan Satkowski both have played on the team for several years.





# How did that happen? Want a little competition? Possibilities. Holding on. Thick and thin.



Focused on his next shot, Senior Michael Fayson fakes left to trick his opponent. "Everyone was really hyped up and the atmosphere from the students really pushed on the momentum we were all feeling" Fayson said. He said he was asked to play. "Jason Simpson and Rico Sparks asked me if I would try out for the team, and I'm glad I did. It was a blast" Fayson said.



With Mr. Luke Starkey at his side, Senior Cwon Terrell blocks his opponent and maintains control of the ball. "We didn't expect Starkey to kill us. We expected more of that to come from Prow," Terrell said. Bleachers full of students cheered on the seniors until the very end. "The crowd cheered for us the whole game. Even though we lost, I gave it my all and everyone still showed us a lot of love for trying," Terrell said.

Dribbling the ball down the court, Senior Michael Enghofer plays offense. "Our team really did have fun, and maybe if we weren't so overconfident in ourselves, the outcome would have been different," Enghofer said.

Since the beginning of the school year, the seniors and the faculty have debated who is more skilled, seniors or faculty. "We talked too much trash the whole year and did not prove it on game day," Senior Louis Craig said.

The Senior vs. Faculty Basketball Game occurs every year right before the start of Spring Break. This game gives the overall winner bragging rights for the year. This year, the seniors hoped to make a difference.

The seniors wanted to win the game, but fell short with a score of 35-25, giving the teachers victory.

Going into the decathlon with one loss against the faculty, the seniors were more confident that they were going to win. Many seniors were excited about the decathlon and ready to declare the title.

"I thought with us losing the game, we could redeem ourselves and claim some type of title," Senior Natalie Riechers said.

After the events were completed, the wins and losses were tallied and the teachers remained victorious with a winning score of 8-2.



After winning the award for "Most Musical," Senior Melina Rivera sings the "Star-Spangled Banner." "It's like an out-of-body experience when I sing, but once I start it just feels right," Rivera said.



With a mouthful of wings, Senior Tracee Mitchel competes in the Senior vs. Faculty Basketball Game half-time show. "I thought it would be cool to represent my senior class," Mitchel said.



"The atmosphere was completely amazing. I was really pumped to play."  
-Senior Adonis Madry



"I've wanted to play and represent my class since the first game I saw my freshman year. Scoring that three pointer in front of the whole school felt awesome."  
-Senior Kashis Shannon





As the school year came to a close, the graduating class of 2010 looked forward to several events to partake in. Senior Allison Kish believed that "one event that many seniors used as a time to reminisce was the Senior Breakfast and Drive-Around."

"Out of all the events you are able to participate in, the Senior Breakfast is one that most everyone attends and dresses up for," Senior Janel Contreras said.

In this event, seniors come together to enjoy a formal breakfast in the Freshman Center cafeteria and watch a preview of the Senior Video.

After watching the preview of the video, the seniors then proceeded to the Hall of Flags to pickup their graduation tickets and ended the morning by driving around the school.

Also, for the first time, specific "funny" awards were presented, in addition to the Senior Choice Awards.

"Dylan Certa winning 'Most Hair' and getting tackled for trying to take off his shirt is something I will never forget," Senior Jamel Danzy said.

# Full of great Perseverance Anything but ordinary MORE THAN WORDS DREAMS. Life

Holding a napkin and milk, Senior Jacqueline Pena waits in line for her breakfast. After the breakfast was over, the seniors proceeded to the auditorium to see a preview of the Senior Video and then headed to the Hall of Flags to receive their graduation tickets.



The rain was not going to hold back Seniors Amber Wall, Jazzmyne Griggs and Tressura Sowell from enjoying themselves at their Senior Drive-Around. The Senior Drive-Around was the last event for seniors before graduation.



Riding in a red wagon, Seniors Juan Hernandez and Kevin Schroeder "wanted to be different" than other seniors at the Senior Drive-Around.



On the back of a motorcycle, Seniors Brendi Pidgeon and Scottie Richardson prepare for their first lap of the Senior Drive-Around.



"Hosting was fun, but my favorite part of the breakfast was seeing everybody."  
-Senior Emily Kurczynski



"I thought it was really funny and it was really unexpected. I knew I was going to win an award, but I didn't expect to win that one."  
-Senior Frank Traina



After the breakfast, Senior Deandré Marteen waits in line to receive his graduation tickets.





# SO LONG, farewell

t memories.  
ays off. Living it up.  
ry. A year of difference.  
DS. Remember the name.  
ET IN MOTION.  
e lessons are learned.



After winning the award for "Most Hair," Senior Dylan Certa attempts to take off his shirt while Seniors Jamel Danzy and Shakiyla Gatewood try to stop him from revealing his chest to the seniors at the Senior Breakfast.

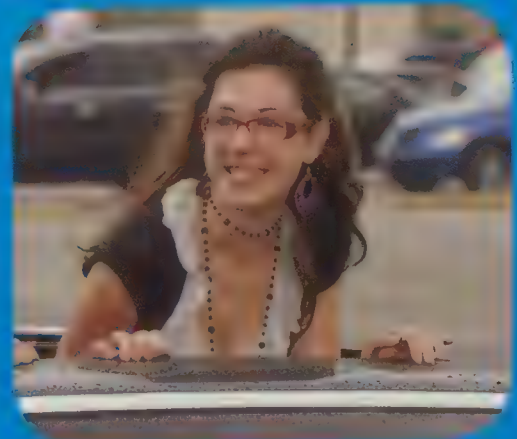


With smiles on their faces, Seniors Allison Kish, Amber Medwetz and Julie Hays enjoy the final lap of the Senior Drive-Around. "It was a lot of fun having one last final experience with all seniors before we graduate," Kish said.



While holding on to the back of a car, Seniors Nicholas Townes and Brandon Brack choose to be unlike most seniors and skate through the Senior Drive Around. The Senior Drive Around was held May 21, 2010.

Sticking her head out of the sunroof, Senior Carlotta Sciacaluga smiles as she enjoys some of her final experiences at Merrillville High School as a foreign exchange student. Come the end of the school year, Sciacaluga will return to Italy.



Holding on to the truck for support, Senior Andrea Stevenson prepares to take her final lap as a senior around Merrillville High School. Stevenson was one of the many seniors who decided to sit outside of their cars despite the rain.



Most Popular



Divia Lowe & Lisa Pozniak

Best Personality



Melissa Kwiatkoski  
Matthew McLindon

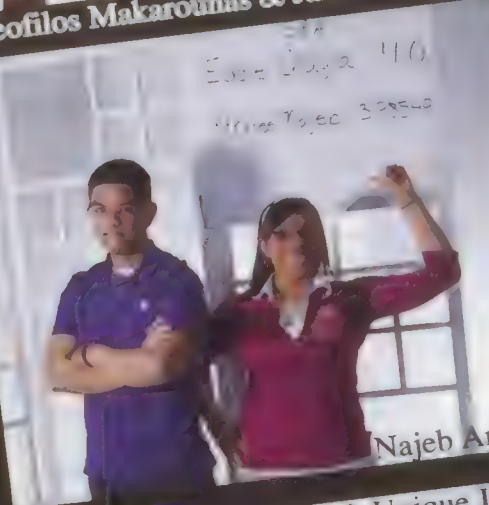
Best Hair



Montrell Thomas

Korey Linderbaum

Most Intelligent



Najeb Ariffee

Cha'yrá Eddie

Andre Wikerson  
Dominique Marshall



Best Dressed

Christian Echols & Jaylen Bentley

Most Likely to Stay Friends



Amber Medwetz & Jillian Larson

Most Musical



Melina Rivera & Unique Jeter

Anthony Watson

Most Athletic



Bryonna Davis & Lisa Pozniak

James Travis

Most Actively Involved



Cha'yrá Eddie & Sarah Martin

Najeb Ariffee & Juan Rivera

Best Body



Angelica Dix

James Stewart

Kevon Bowen

Kourtney Givens



Most Spiritual

Most Spirited



Peter Paskash

Melissa Kwiatkoski



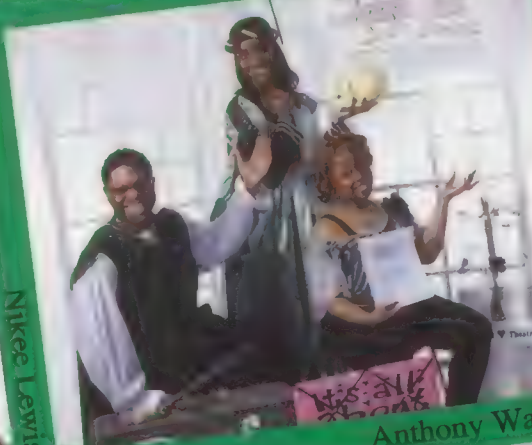
# SENIOR CHOICE awards

Nicest Smile



Lawrence Scroggins

Best Actor/Actress



Anthony Watson

Most Likely to Become Famous



James Travis

Melina Rivera

Best Dancer



Naudia Bradley & Jaylah Robinson

Jaylen Bentley

Best Car



Diona Milenkovski

Francis Martisovic

Cutest Couple



Michelle Cavasos & Jacob Flores

Most Likely to Succeed



Ajay Patel

Cha'Yra Eddie

Nicest Eyes



Johnny McClendon

Briana Lee

Most Talkative



Blair McDaniel

Jamel Danzy

Class Clown



Rico Spikes

Madison Corneil

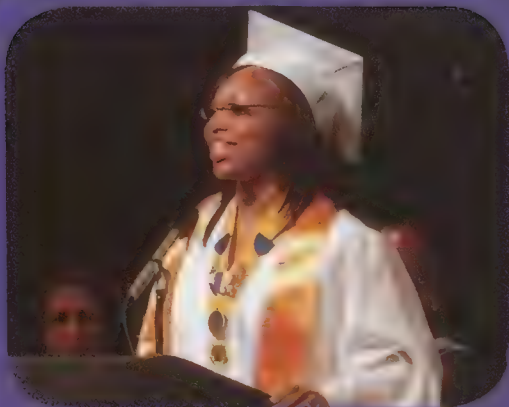
Most Likely to Come Back and Teach at MHS

Adonis Madry

Madison Corneil



# THE FINAL party



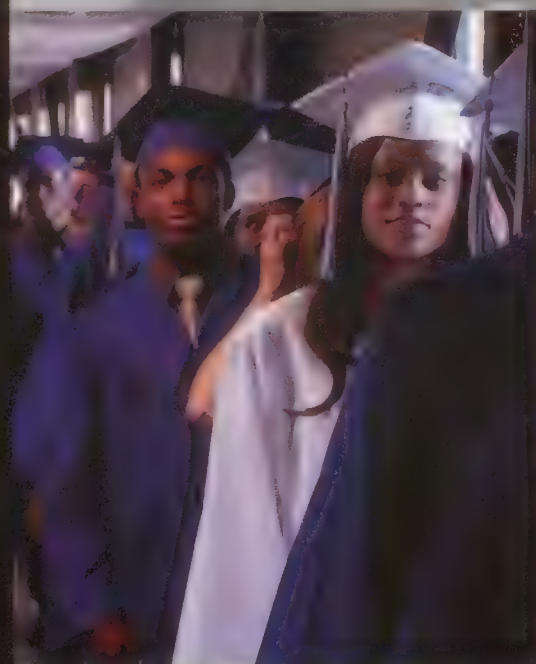
As Valedictorian for the Class of 2010, Senior Cha'ya Eddie gives her speech. "Finding out I was the only valedictorian was pretty cool. That hasn't happened in a long time," Eddie said.



After being announced the Salutatorian, Senior Caitlyn Hill speaks to the Senior Class. Upon graduating, Hill will attend Roosevelt University in Chicago.



After four years, Senior Valanti Atsas walks across the stage of the Star Plaza Theatre to shake hands with Assistant Superintendent Dr. Mark Sperling.



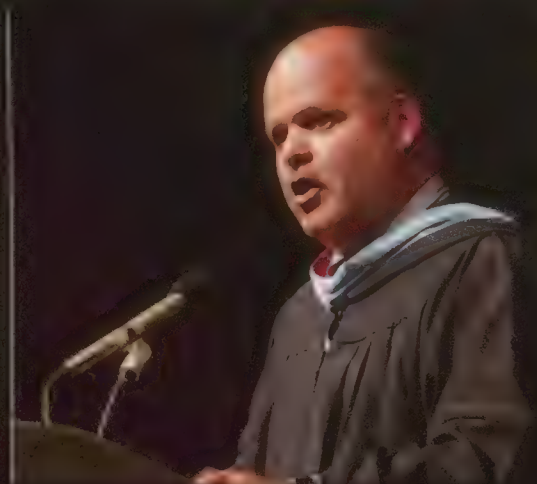
While standing in line, Seniors Cori Harris and Jasmine Harris wait for Commencement to begin. The graduates were moved to the Star Plaza Theatre hallway as part of Commencement.



Headed for the back stage entrance, Senior Byron Ferrell prepares to receive his diploma cover. Graduates who earned the Academic Honors Diploma wore gold medallions.



As the selected guest speaker, Mrs. Rae Lopez tells her life story and how it pertains to each graduate.

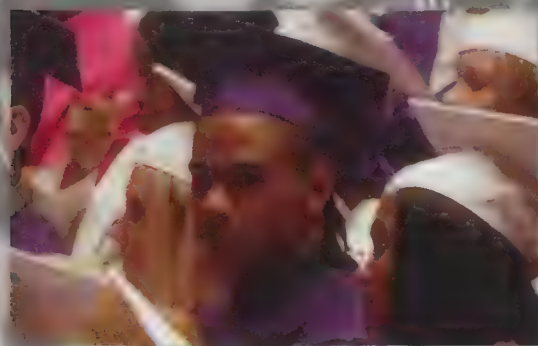


At Commencement, Principal Mr. Michael Krutz speaks to the graduates.





Standing on the stage as the treasurer of the Class of 2010 with School Board President Mr. Thomas Bunnbridge and Vice President Mr. James Donohue, Senior Sarah Martin prepares to present the senior gift of gold scissors. The scissors would cut the ribbon around the Memory Garden.



While sitting between Seniors Elizabeth Lamb and Pauline Laorden, Senior Landau Lang listens to the graduation speeches. Commencement took place June 2, 2010, which was also the last day of school.

Before the ceremony begins, Senior Class Sponsor Mr. James Stamper helps Senior William Laws by lending him a tie for Baccalaureate. Our Lady of Consolation Church hosted the service May 23, 2010.

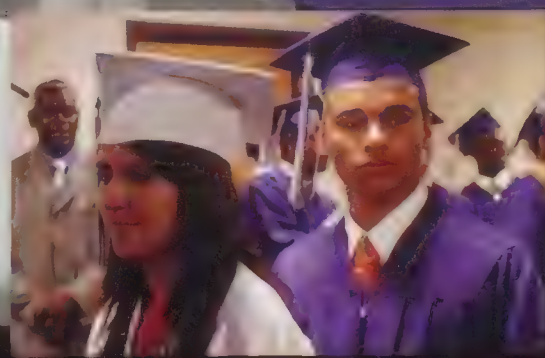


Led by Choir Director Mrs. Melinda Reinhart, the Choralteens perform "The Lord Bless You and Keep You." The Choralteens also sang "For Good," a song about improving one's life with the help of others. Seniors Juan Rivera and Melina Rivera performed a modern version of "Ave Maria."

The Senior Class selected Student Services Clerk Mrs. Cheryl Ursery to deliver a motivational speech. Mrs. Ursery's message about following one's destiny was shared from a mother's perspective. Mrs. Ursery, an MHS employee since 2002, initially had prepared a speech, but decided to give an impromptu talk instead.



Seniors Kimberly Coates, Arlena Cobb, Diamond Cody and Madison Gofield



Seniors Harlene Haro and Jonathan Harmon



Seniors Brianus Collins and Kenneth Comer



# Colin Schafer



Congratulations on all your accomplishments! Continue to stay focused and achieve your goals. Stay true to yourself and your beliefs. We love you and are so very proud of you!

Mom,  
Dad,  
Brendan  
& Scott



# Dianna De Leon



We  
Love  
You

MOM & DAD

# Nadia Randolph

You are a princess and you are worthy of all good things that God has planned and purposed for your life.

Love,  
Mom,  
Genesis and Leuitia



Congratulations,  
Mariah

We love you!

Love,

Mom, Dad, Nicole,

Marquita and Anthony

# Mariah Dennis



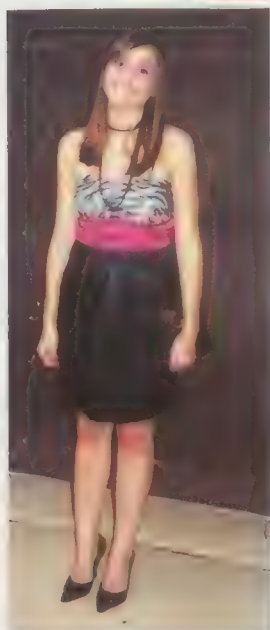




From graduating  
pre-school to graduating  
high school, you have  
remained the best of friends.  
Here's to a lifetime  
of being "Best Friends!"  
Congratulations and  
best of luck  
on your future endeavors!

## NICOLE Ian Brindley & FULTZ

Love,  
The  
Brindley  
& Fultz  
Families



## RACHEL Mendez

Congratulations to you and  
best wishes for your future.  
We are all so very proud  
of you and all you do.  
Love,  
Mom, Dad & Grandpa

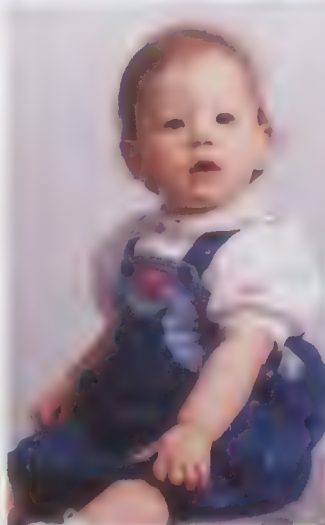
# Nicole Brindley

We are so proud of you and  
all that you have accomplished.  
Always follow your hopes and  
all of your dreams.

They are all within reach  
for you one day to achieve!  
Best luck in all of your future endeavors.

We love you very much.

Mom, Dad, Kristin and Alyssa





# CATHERINE G a m i n o



Don't be afraid to swing.  
If you don't swing,  
you can't hit one  
out of the park.  
Love, LaLa



Cathy, Congratulations. We are very proud of you.  
May all your hopes and dreams come true.  
Remember, whenever you're hungry,  
there is always meatloaf waiting for you.  
Love, Papa and Grandma Jodi



Don't ever believe the sky is the limit  
when there are footprints on the moon!  
Love, Titi, Tia, Mikey, Taylor & Tyson





Princess ,  
your graduation marks  
a new beginning with  
new opportunities  
waiting for you. You  
have all you need to  
make your dreams  
come true! And when  
you get the choice to  
sit out or dance, I hope  
you dance.

# NAUDIA bradley

WE  
LOVE  
YOU  
AND  
WE  
ARE  
SO  
PROUD  
OF  
YOU!



# ALLISON KISH



# zac STEVENS

OUR ALL-AMERICAN

Through all of your hard work and dedication, you have  
always been there for others, both on and off the mat. With  
that same dedication, you will continue to be an inspiration  
and champion in life. We love you and  
we are proud of you. You will always be our  
ALL-AMERICAN.

Love, Mom,  
Dad, Kall

and  
Family



# GABRIELLE roberts



Congrats  
Gabrielle!

We love you and  
are very proud  
of you! Love,  
Mom, Dad &  
Danielle



# Sam Troutman's GAME NIGHT



Sam Troutman was born November 4, 1991. Education was extremely important to Sam. He was particularly interested in science and was planning to attend Purdue University for Pre-Pharmacy. Sam also worked at Strack and Van Til's to save money for college, so he would be able to further his education. Sam Troutman was a dedicated student at Merrillville High School and will be truly missed. He was tragically killed in a car accident November 13, 2009.

## SCHOLARSHIP

In honor of Sam's commitment to science, a yearly scholarship award will be granted to a number of Merrillville High School seniors.

Recipients will be selected by a committee appointed by class sponsors. Preference will be given to those with career goals in the field of Pharmacy, Nursing or Health Sciences. Academic record, work experience and extra-curricular activities will also be considered.





# In loving memory always of our sweet, smiling Sam

God knows how much we need them  
And so he takes but few  
To make the land of heaven  
More beautiful to view

Believing this is difficult  
Still somehow we must try  
The saddest word mankind knows  
Will always be goodbye



May your love, laughter,  
honesty, strength,  
caring heart and  
beautiful soul live on  
in whose lives  
you have touched forever.  
Love, Mom





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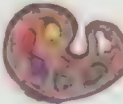


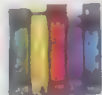



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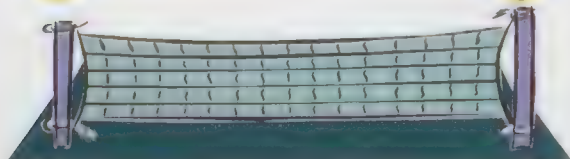


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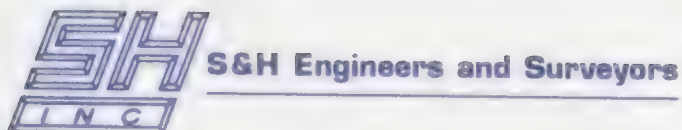
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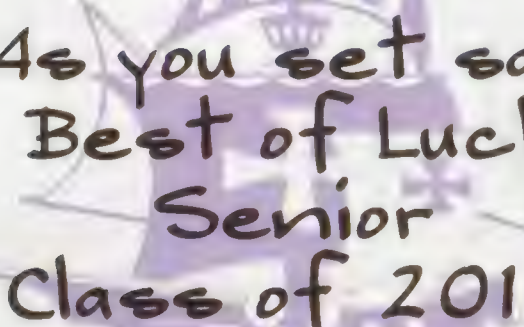




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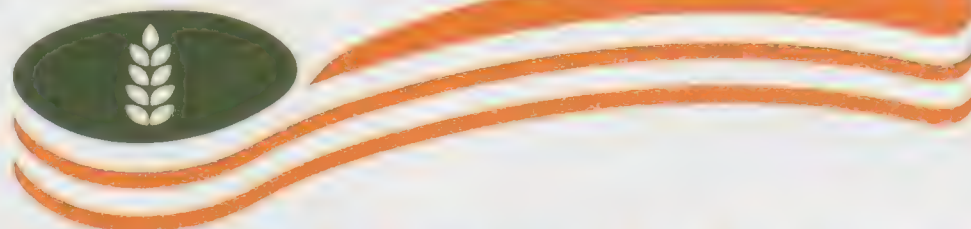


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## French Club

*Ms. Irene Spiro, Sponsor*

*Front row: Marissa Novak, Rebecca Broom, Lakeshia Miles, Brittany Thurson, Alyson Austin; Second row: Heather Mihal, Samantha Murphy, Amber Scollon, Alyssa Shirk; Back row: Victoria Collins, Kimberly Coates, Jacob Kopf.*



## German Club

*Mr. Al Stoner, Sponsor*

*Front row: Sarah Dora, Andrea Stevenson, Jamie Roberts, Amber Scollon, Allison Gronli; Second row: Jacob Swierc, Louisa Schwartz, Joseph Witkowski; Back row: Zachary Swierc, Konstantinos Matzaris, Daniel Gronli, Mr. Stoner.*



## Spanish Club

*Mrs. Esmerelda Palmern-Zamora, Sponsor*

*Front row: Mrs. Esmerelda Zamora, Ana Torres, Maria Nolasco, Ana Nolasco, Ana Nolasco; Back row: Braiyan Rodriguez, Carlos Ortega, Michael Ramey.*



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### Building Trades A

Mr. Robert Mackovyak, Instructor

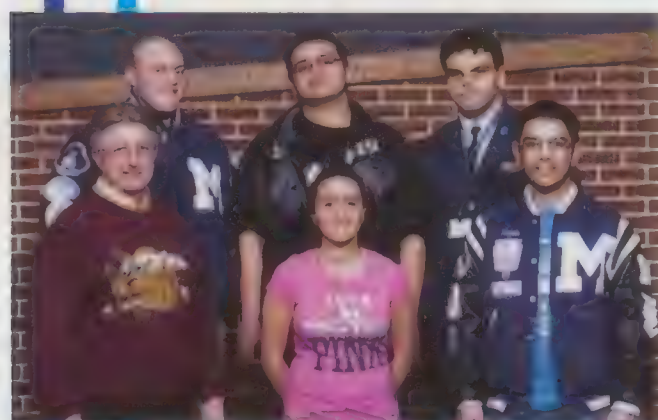
Front row: Mr. Mackovyak, Joseph Wieklerak, Gregory Sanders II, David Serrato; Second row: Jacob Tokarczyk, Donald Walker, Jason Alvarez; Back row: Jesse Reyes, Andrew Appleton.



### Building Trades B

Mr. Robert Mackovyak, Instructor

Front row: Martin Florez, Mr. Mackovyak, Darrius Smith; Second row: Nicholas Townes, Derek Taylor, Christian Criswell, Xavier Ponce; Back row: Francis Martisovic, Clay Kenera, Jeron Cooke.



### Marine Band

Mr. Jeff Yelton, Advisor

Front row: Mr. Yelton, Eleni Kazonis, Najeb Arifee; Second row: Elbryn Google, Alesandro Vacosta, Dylan Certa.



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## Peer Mediators

*Mrs. Veronica Maldonado, Sponsor*

*Front row: Mrs. Maldonado, Leroy Love, Cha'yr Eddie, Melanie Ortiz, Chelsea Oyewide. Second row: Aurielle Carson, Rashonda Brooks, Melanee Stubbs, Rah-Kimm Cherry. Back row: Ken Davis, Christian Frink, Najeb Arifee.*



## Chess Club

*Mr. Sean Meagher, Sponsor*

*Front row: Antonio Gage, Shantea Thomas, Daniel Robinson, David Rodriguez, Johnny Villarreal, Steven Chow, Alan Pate, Stephen Baker, Pooja Patel, Alexander. Mr. Meagher. Back row: Terrell Taylor, Corey Williams, Jordan Banks, Joshua News, Frey, Nicholas Schuffert.*





**Beginning Band**

*Mr. Danielson, Director*

*Front row: Jeneejah Smith, Charis Burgstahler, Hannah Graham, Gregory Williams, Darius Dabadee, Evangeline Rogers, Jessica Flores, Mr. Danielson; Second row: Jovanna Johnson, Imani Shelby, Miranda Vega, Carlos Larson, Aliyah Williams, Nakel McClinton, Kevin Woodfork, Eric Slade Jr; Third row: Dartanian Holland, Joseph Brady, Jacob Styx, Alexander Swierc, Jacob Swierc, Bradley Brayfield, Paco Barrera, Thomas McFarland, James Meduetz; Back row: George Papamihalakis, Christian Brunski, Travante Cooper, Ralston Bultema, Jordan Diaz, Tyler Scheive, Timothy Shelton Jr., Austin Jamerson, Adam Sherwinski, Kevin Semmes.*



**Intermediate Band**

*Mr. Mark Danielson, Director*

*Front row: Gabrielle Bell, Freedom Johnson, Alyssa Ross, Myeasha Brown, Christa Flores, Cymeburhieah Haynes; Second row: Jamel Peterson, Sean Gibson, Charizma Jackson, Logan Hubbard, Joseph Patton, Mr. Danielson; Third row: Noah Foster, Boris Williams, Tyler Shockey, Joseph Drapeau, Malcolm Hindmon, Daniel Lipp; Back row: Marley Whittaker, Devon Williams, Zachary Swierc, Alejandro Serrano, Corey Weatherspoon, Rashid Dika.*



**Variety Choir**

*Mrs. Melinda Reinhart, Director*

*Front row: Marissa Novak, Morgan Archibald, Kandice Nicholson, Claudia Strong, Lauren Tillman, Kayla Taylor, Andrea Reed, Tamara Brown, Tiana Carter; Second row: Keaton Hurtado, Bea Bramford, Jamaica Laster, Shy'Orla Tolbert, Jasmine Johnson, Breeana Adeniyi, Victoria Collins, Stephanie Barnard, Amber Moore; Third row: Ashanti Gray, Zhanique Hudson, Dionna Witherspoon, Jaelynn Porter, Carolyn Jones, Fantasia McKinney, Leeah Cooper, Deborah Shoulder; Back row: Hannah Bailey, Arrisa Allen, Erika Lipp, Paul Harris, Taylor Dutton, David Williams, David Williams.*

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#### Concert Choir

Mrs. Melinda Reinhart, Director

Front row: Sierra Collier, Dana Collins, Brechey White, Jurrae' Jones, Adriana Weaver, Rodney Trigg II, Jazmin Jones, Airrion Timmons; Second row: Brittany Thurson, Charity Scollon, Peter Butler, Jama Jackson, Cornell Tucker III, Che'la McClain, Charlishea Leeks; Third row: Daryl Toneff, Tatiana Ruiz, Carlisia Wheatley, Devon Reed, Brandon Wright, Bryanna Pope, Aaliyah Harmon; Back row: Elizabeth Whelan, Brianna Fotinos, Karl Johnson, Adonis Smith, Mike Johnson, Eva Foley, Melody Harris



#### Vocalteens

Mrs. Melinda Reinhart, Director

Front row: Malcolm Graham, Nicole Varela, Michael Barnett, Melina Rivera, Victor Rios, Alyssa Shirk; Second row: Payton Parker, Brenda Pidgeon, Russel Cole, Chardonay Balkcom, Alex Wright, Kayla Johnson; Third row: Tia Rucker, Tyrone Brown, Angelica Dix, Kiara Stephens-Brown, Erik White, Kimberly Tapper; Back Row: Kourtney Givens, Laron Jones.



#### Velveteens

Mrs. Melinda Reinhart, Director

Front row: Mary Williams, Sarah Barnard, Mariah Trigg, Patricia Spikes; Second row: Stormie Milling, Caitlynn Anderson; Back row: Kayla Holmes, Jaleesa Holmes.



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Intermediate Orchestra, second period

Mr. John Bradford, Director

Front row: Miguel Lagunas, Sheridan Parker, Inesha Smith, Carley Laughead, Caleb Sanchez; Second row: Anthony Chamberlain, Emma Harper, Allison Gronli, Minika Knight, Mr. John Bradford, Michael Rhoades; Third row: Lauren Blackwell, Stephanie Husek, Kalliopi Haramantas, Rachel Baron, Luis Gutierrez, Renekah Khani, Kourtney Woods, Erin Weiss; Fourth row: Joseph Cowser, Mathew Harms, Alex Murga, William Peraz, Nathan Rodriguez, Daniel Tarulis, Keith Sadural, Violet Lipscomb; Back row: Erica Homeier, Audrey Powell, Julie Ross, Mia Patikas, Briana Higareda, Kaelin Sanchez, Brooke Wilson.



Intermediate Orchestra, third period

Mr. John Bradford, Director

First row: Mark Pearson, Deshay Vinson, Andrea Mathis, Natieka Mathews, Alex Jara, Nathan Negron; Second row: Mayer Williams, Jamine Grunberg, Kelli Wright, Mr. Bradford. Third row: Brand M. Swan, Mrs. Mayra, Tierney Peterson, Shannon Harris, Dshae Brown, JeanPierre Cartenas, Lauren Harding; Fourth row: Jessica Moore, Antonio Gomez, Angela Peterson, Brian Wilson, Mrs. Chantrell, Mr. Thomas; Back row: Mrs. M. Ward, Mr. and Mrs. V. Ward, Mrs. J. Ward, Mrs. W. Ward, Mrs. F. Ward, Mrs. J. Ward, Mrs. C. Ward, Mrs. N. Ward.

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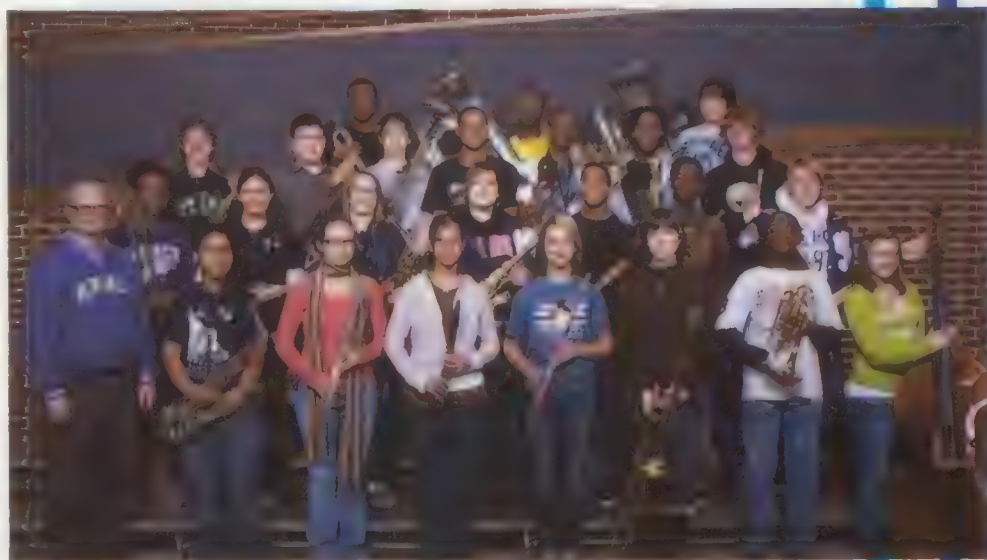
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Mr. Mark Danielson, Director

Front row: Mr. Danielson, Mya Mayfield, Gloria Graham, Ashley Ahlborn, Sarah Dora, Sabrina Smith, Griggs, Eugene Rogers, Nichole McFarland; Second row: Taylor Worrell, Jessica Flores, Kathleen Murphy, Daniella Douglas, Dartanian Holland, Joseph Patton, Kalie Domikaitis; Third row: Jacob Swierc, Thomas McFarland, Randall Bultema Jr., Marley Whittaker, Corey Weatherspoon, Amon Garner-Poston, Zachary Swierc; Back row: Christopher Taylor, Christian Frink, George Papamihalakis.



Teens for Christ

Mr. Alan Branda and Mr. Rayshon Richardson, Sponsors

Front row: Allyiah Brown, Yakee Lomax, Jennayi Burden, Victoria Henderson; Back row: Mr. Branda, Carlisia Wheatley, Kourtney Givens, Reginald Robinson Jr., Mr. Richardson



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Yes! Interact  
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 Front row: Messay Crawford-Taylor, Cha'ya Eddie, André Ross; Second row: Dajah Harris, Melonie Ortiz, Alisha Jenkins, Rachel Walton, Leroy Love, Britney Allen, Erin Segrest, Rebekkah Kimbri; Third row: Lakeshia Miles, Morgan Walton, Mariah Portis, Bianca Portis, Devon Patton, Derick D. Williams, Marissa McMillan, Chantel Williams, Orla D. Williams, Monique Williams, Ibikunle-Salami, Angela Hopkins, Priscilla Stewart, Amber Scollon, Jamie Roberts, Te'Kea Williams, Tianna Williams; Back row: William Laws, Tyrone Brown, Jonathon Curry, James Wright, Jaylen Bentley, Alexx Wright, Mr. Knocke.



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## Drama Club

Mr. Steve Elser, Director

Front row: Mariah Trigg, Gloria Graham, Claudia Strong, Mya Mayfield, Nicole Vanna, Marissa Novak, Taylor Carter; Second row: Shaunice Holbrook, Hannah Bailey, Heather Mitchell, Sara Dora, Lexa Naligan, Augusta Cunningham, Emmanuel Kinn, Tund Lany, Victoria Camis, Marissa Corfield, Kathleen Murphy, Alyson Austin, David Rodriguez, Alyssa Shirik, LaVontecia Gist; Back row: Kimberly Coates, Russell Cole II, Parry Papamihalakis, Christian Frink, Malcolm Graham, Skylar Rothgeb, Patricia Millard.



# FULFILLING Our Ambitions

“Once upon a time, we made a yearbook and it was a piece of cake. The end.”

Yeah right, that's not how this went. Making this yearbook was probably one of the most stressful yet fulfilling experiences we could ever imagine. From the bleachers at the baseball games to the seats at the coffee house, planning for this book was not confined to the classroom. We spent countless hours brainstorming, designing, innovating and creating to bring our dream into reality.

In order to get our creative juices flowing, we had to be open-minded about all the possible designs that we could select. The book that you are holding was not our first vision, nor our second or third. We went through what seemed like thousands of ideas before our epiphany.

“Think left and think right and think low and think high. Oh, the thinks you can think up if only you try!” -Dr. Seuss

It goes without saying that we could not have done any of this without our fearless leader, Mrs. Teresa Procter. To you, Mrs. Procter, we thank you for helping, guiding and believing in us. You taught us everything we know about yearbook and inspired us to never give up on something we wanted. We also truly appreciate that you never gave us “the voice” and put up with our constant worrying and our serious cases of OCD. Most importantly, we thank you for giving us the opportunity to shape our dreams and ideas into something we can be proud of.

Though our entire staff was excellent, we would like to send extra gratitude to those who went above and beyond what we asked of them. It is staff members like this who make even the toughest days a little bit brighter. Without your help, we may have possibly gone crazy trying to finish tasks by ourselves.

Our advice to next year's editors is stay calm, remember to breathe and stick to the deadlines. Just keep in mind that being the editors is an honor and will be worth all the effort in the end. Always know that Mrs. Procter is there for you and will help you accomplish every goal and make your book a true reflection of your own ideas as she did for us.

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## Colophon

As members of Quill and Scroll, the Indiana High School Press Association and the National Scholastic Press Association, the Merrillville High School yearbook staff presents this 85th volume of *Merrillvue*.

Under the guidance of Mrs. Teresa Procter and led by co-editors Catherine Gamino and Rachel Mendez, the third hour yearbook class developed this book with the theme of “Innovate and Create.” It was our intention to create something that was not just a yearbook, but also a documentation that represents each and every perspective of high school students and the cornucopia that make us one.

First and foremost, the staff would like to thank Mrs. Procter for her intuition, patience and guidance in producing this yearbook. Without her assistance, this yearbook would not have been possible.

Mrs. Valerie T. Tanke, a sales representative for Walsworth Publishing Company, also assisted in the creation of this book. The staff would like to thank Mrs. Tanke for her help throughout the production of this book.

Thank you to HR Imaging Partners Inc. who took the underclassmen and faculty portraits. The yearbook staff also shows their gratitude to Mr. John Bir of John Giolas Photographers and his staff for taking all of the senior portraits along with the pictures necessary for sections including Lifestyles, Academics, Sports, Organizations and Events, Performing Arts and the Senior Section. We are grateful for his willingness to attend school events in order to photograph and capture moments that will now be remembered through this yearbook.

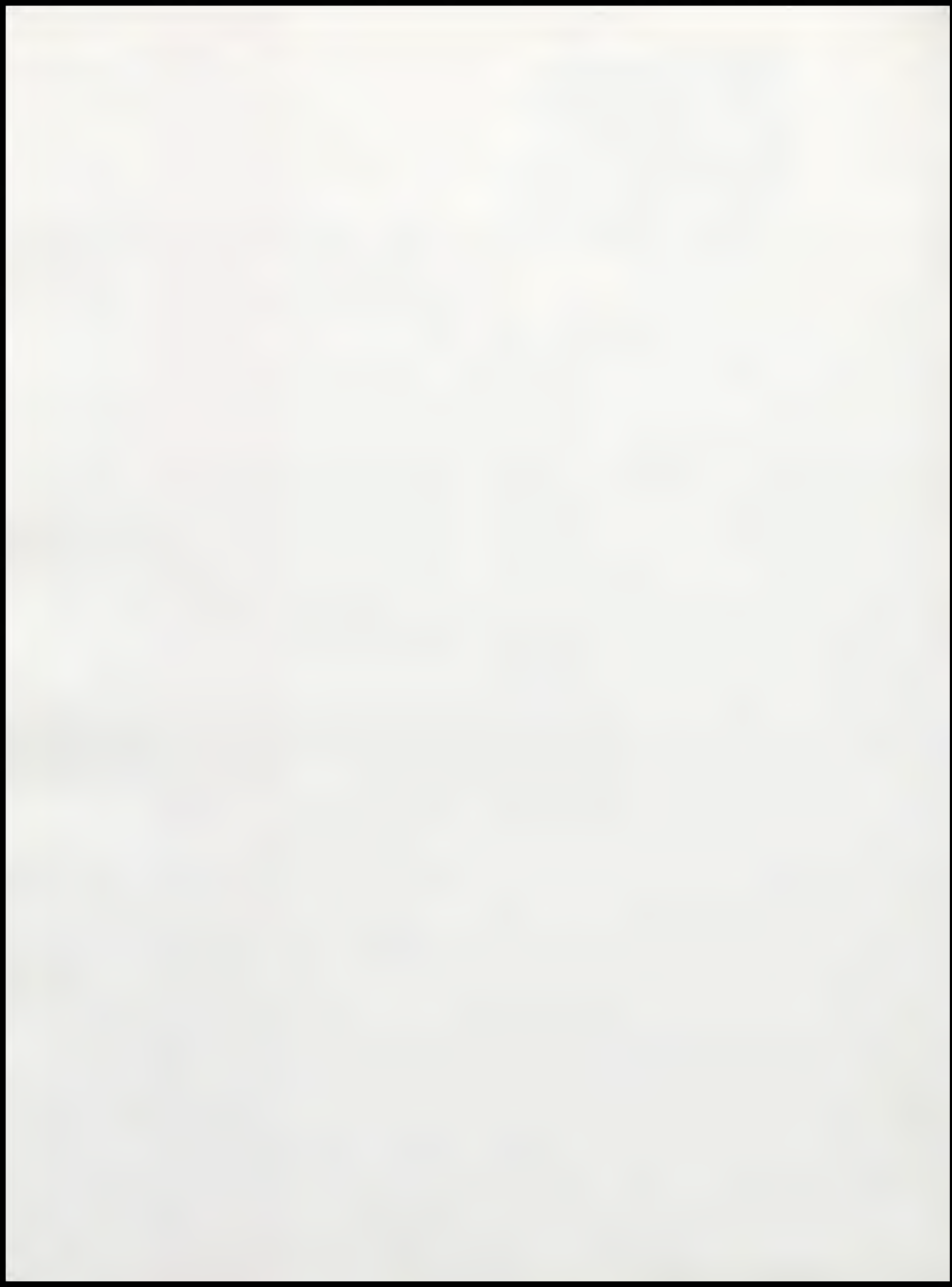
To create this book, the staff used Adobe InDesign CS2, Microsoft Word and Adobe Photoshop with fonts including Ebony for all stories, Ebony Oblique for all captions, Helvetica for all scoreboards. Our headline fonts include Lynn Bold, Sleepwalker Bold, Helvetica, Bria Bold, Import, Oblique Bold, Big Fiction Bold, Emilee, Oliveoil Bold, Gunner Bold, Nicole, Berkley Bold, Cameron Bold, Iron Maiden, Mixage Bold, Keifer Bold, Maximo, One Child Bold, Pesky Bold, Schoolboy and Optima Bold. We used Jasper Bold, Little Squirt and Lunchbox bold for page numbers. The index and ads are in Fairchild Bold. The cover fonts are Feltpoint, Design and Iron Maiden.

The 2010 yearbook staff would also like to make it known that the assistance and contributions from the Athletic Department, the secretaries of the Main Office, the Guidance Department and all coaches were greatly appreciated. Appreciation is also due to Mr. Mark Ciesielski and the PNN staff for their assistance in advertising this yearbook. Thank you to Pauline Laorden for taking and providing the photographs for the dividers and back ensheet. The staff thanks all other persons and groups that have aided in the production of this book.

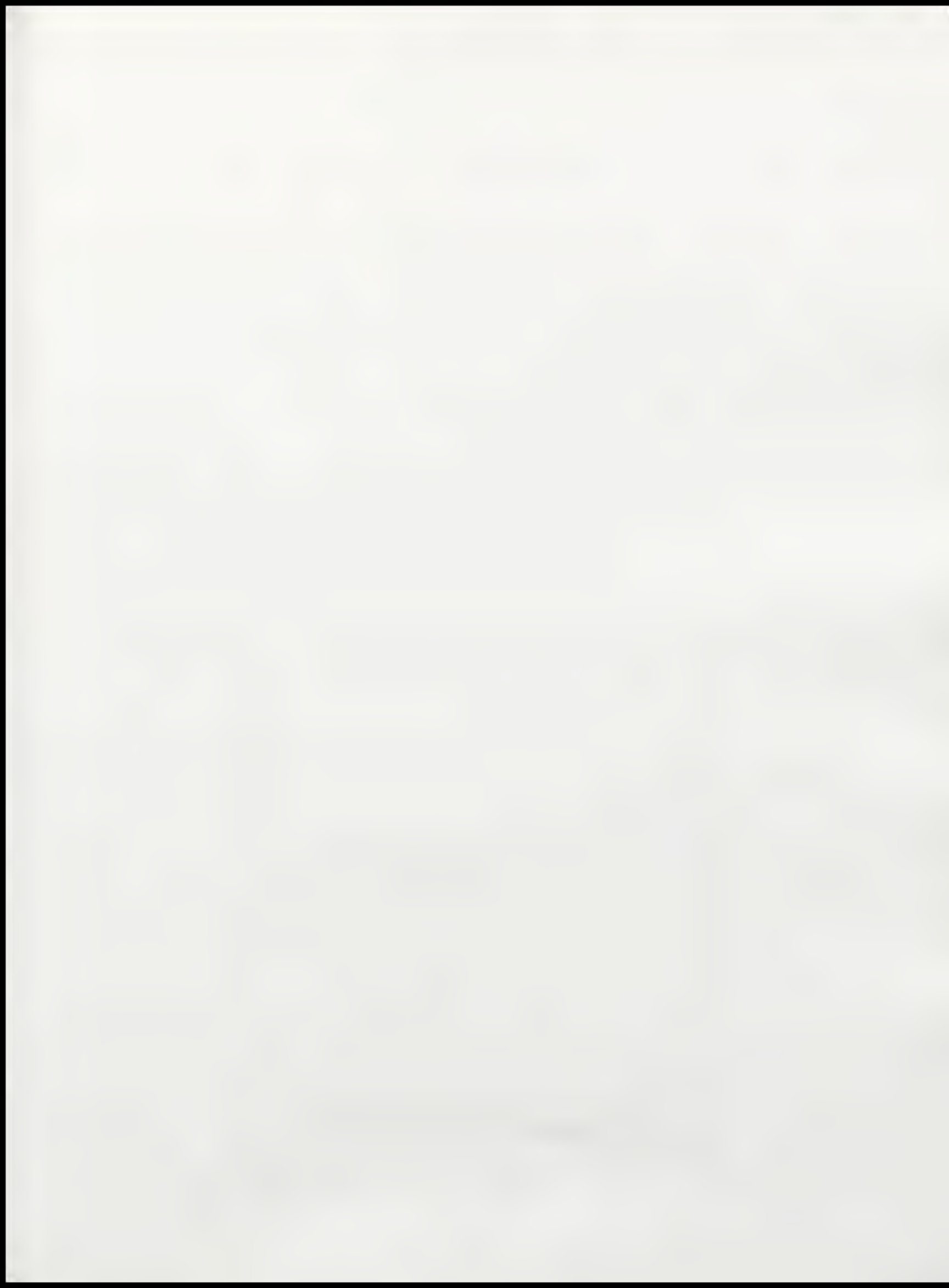




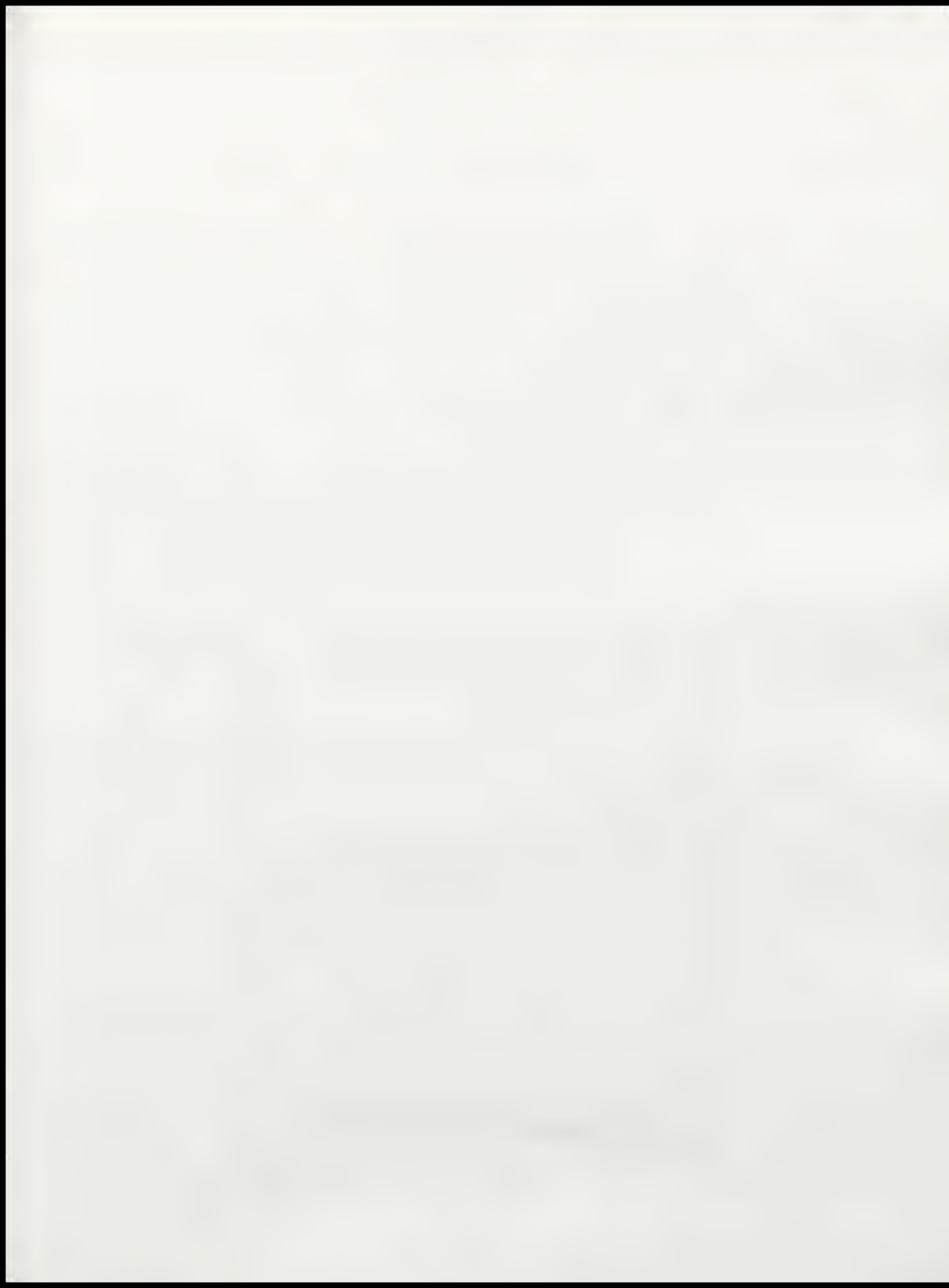


















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